

THE
L I F E
O F

Tamerlane

THE
G R E A T,
WITH

His Wars against the Duke of
Mosco, the King of *China*, *Bajazet* the Great
Turk, the Sultan of *Egypt*, the King of *Persia*, and
some others, carried on with a continued Series
of success from the first to the last.

WHEREIN
Are Rare Examples of Heathenish Piety, Pru-
dence, Magnanimity, Mercy, Liberality, Humility,
Justice, Temperance, and Valour.

By *Sa. Clarke*, Late Pastor in *St. Bennet Fink*, *London*.

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The Life and Death of
TAMERLANE
 THE
GREAT,

Who flourished *Anno Christi* 1400.



Tamerlane was born at *Samercand*, the chief City of the *Zagatajan Tartars*; His Father was called *Zain-Cham*, or, as others will, *Og*, Prince of the *Zagatajans*, of the Country *Sachithay* (sometimes part of the famous Kingdom of *Parthia*) third in descent from *Zingis*, the great and successful Captain of the *Tartars*; which *Og* being a Prince of a peaceable nature (accounting it no less honour quietly to keep the Countries left him by his Father, than with much trouble and no less hazard to seek how to enlarge the same) long lived in most happy peace with his Subjects, no less happy therein than himself; not so much seeking after the hoording up of Gold and Silver (things of that Nation not regarded nor valued) as contenting himself with the encrease and profit of his sheep and herds of Cattel, then, and yet also the principal revenues of the *Tartar* Kings and Princes; which happily gave occasion to some, ignorant of the manner and customs of those Northern Nations and Coun-

His Parentage.

His Fathers
 peaceable dis-
 position.

tries, to account them all for shepherds and herdsmen, and so also to have reported of this mighty Prince, as if he had been a shepherds son, or herdsmen himself; vainly measuring his Nobility by the homely course of life of his people and Subjects, and not by the honour of his house, and Heroical vertues, hardly to be paralleled by any Prince of that, or the former Ages.

Here resigns his
Kingdom to
his son.

His peaceable Father now well stricken in years, and weary of the world, delivered up his Kingdom to this his Son (not yet past fifteen years old) joyning unto him two of his most faithful Councillors, *Odmar* and *Ally*, to assist him in the government of his State, whom *Tamerlane* dearly loved whilst they lived, and much honoured the remembrance of them being dead.

Tamerlanes
war against the
Muscovites.

His victory.

His merciful
disposition.

His battel with
the Muscovites

The first proof of *Tamerlanes* Fortune and Valour, was against the great Duke of *Mosco*, or Emperour of *Russia*, for spoiling of a City which had put it self under his protection, and for entering his Country, and proclaiming war against him: whom he in a great battel overthrew, having slain twenty seven thousand of the *Muscovites* footmen, and between fifteen and sixteen thousand horsemen, with the loss of scarce eight thousand horsemen, and four thousand footmen of his own. After which battel *Tamerlane* beholding so many thousands of men lying dead upon the ground, was so far from rejoycing thereat, that turning himself to one of his familiar Friends, he lamented the condition of such as command over great Armies, commending his Fathers quiet course of life, accounting him happy in seeking for rest, and such most unhappy, which by the destruction of their own kind, sought to procure their own glory, protesting himself even from his heart to be grieved to see such sad tokens of his Victory. *Albacen* in his *Arabick* History of *Tamerlane*, makes this Narrative of the battel. The *Muscovite* (saith he) had a great Army, which he had gathered together out of sundry Nations: and *Tamerlane* intending not to put up such wrongs and indignities, assembled all his Forces, and those of his Allies. The *Muscovites* forces were such as had been well trained up in the wars; For having lately concluded a peace with the King of *Poland*, he had from thence ten thousand very good horsemen: There were also with him many *Hungarian* Gentlemen, under the conduct of one *Uladislans*, who brought with him more than eight thousand horse; so that he had in his Army above eighty thousand horse, and one hundred thousand

thousand footmen. *Tamerlane* had in his Army about one hundred and twenty thousand horse, and one hundred and fifty thousand foot, but not so good souldiers as the *Muscovites*; for his Subjects had been long trained up in peace under his peaceable Father; and though they had been sometimes exercised, yet they wanted the practical part of war.

Tamerlanes order in his march was this, He caused all his Army to be divided into squadrons, each consisting of six thousand horse, save his own, which consisted of ten thousand; so that he made eighteen squadrons besides his own. The Avantguard was conducted by *Odmar*, who led eight squadrons which were flanked by forty thousand footmen, divided on the right and left sides, who shot an infinite number of Arrows. The battel was conducted by *Tamerlane*, who, with his own, led ten squadrons, and fifty thousand footmen, the best and choicest souldiers of his whole Army. The Prince of *Thanais*, his kinsman, led the Arereward with six squadrons of horse, and forty thousand foot; his forlorn Hope consisted of some three thousand horse, adventurers. The *Muscovites* fought by double Ranks with Lances, and they seemed to be a greater number than *Tamerlanes*, making a great noise: but *Tamerlanes* skill and multitude at length overcame the force and valour of the *Muscovites*, the victory bending to the *Parthians* side, which they pursued hotly. In this battel *Tamerlane* was hurt on the side of the left eye, and had two horses slain under him: and indeed that day *Odmar* was the safeguard of the Prince, but he lost *Ally*, who was slain with an arrow. The Battle being ended, *Tamerlane* returned thanks to God publicly for his victory, and the next day reviewing his Army, he found that he had lost between seven and eight thousand horsemen, and between three and four thousand footmen. The *Muscovites* lost about twenty seven thousand foot, and fifteen or sixteen thousand horse.

The Prince slackt no time after so great a victory, but marching on, came into the borders of the *Muscovites*, whom he enforced to this agreement. That they should become his Tributaries, paying yearly one hundred thousand Duckats: That the great Duke should defray all the charges of the wars, amounting to three hundred thousand Duckats: That he should withdraw his Army, and send back all the Prisoners; and that for the performance hereof, he should give pledges, which should be changed every year:

His victory.

He is wounded in the Battel.

Ally slain.
Tamerlanes Piety.

The Articles of Peace.

The Life of Tamerlane the Great.

All which being agreed to, he returned with great content and glory to his Father.

Shortly after, the great *Cham* of *Tartary* (his Fathers brother) being grown old, and out of hope of having any more children; moved with the Fame of his Nephew after this victory, sent him divers presents; and withal, offering him his only Daughter in marriage, sent him word that he would proclaim him Heir apparent to his Empire, as indeed in right he was, being his Brothers Son, and the Daughters not using to succeed in those Empires: Which so great an offer *Tamerlane* gladly accepted, and so the marriage was afterwards with great triumph at the old Emperours Court solemnized, and consummated, and our *Tamerlane* according to his Uncles promise, and his own right was proclaimed Heir apparent of that great Empire.

His marriage
to the great
Chams daugh-
ter.

Thus was *Tamerlane* made great, being ever after this marriage, by the old Emperour his Uncle and now his Father in Law, so long as he lived, notably supported, and after his death he succeeded him in that so vast, and mighty an Empire. Before his marriage *Tamerlane* would needs be crowned, to the intent that none should think that the Crown came to him by the right of his wife, but by his own right; and during his abode in the City of *Quavicaï*, where the old Emperour was, he was entertained with all kind of triumphs, wherein he alwaies carried away the Bell, whether in shooting in the bow, in changing of horses in the middest of their courses, in Tiltings, and in all other exercises which required agility or strength; and so after two months he returned with his wife to *Samercand*; in which City he delighted exceedingly to remain, because the situation thereof was fair, and being watered with a great River, was a place of great Traffick, whereby it was made richer than any other in that Country: And whensoever he received intelligence from the Emperour his Uncle, he still imparted the same to *Odmar*, whom he used as his right hand in all his great affairs: There was also in his Court a Christian whom he loved much, and every one greatly respected, called *Axalla*, a *Genovois* by birth, brought up from his youth about his person, for he countenanced all that worshipped one only God that was the Creator of all things. And about this time the old Emperour sent to him to stir him up to war against the great King of *China*, who stiled himself, *Lord of the World, and Son of the Sun*; who had exceeded

His Prudence.

His agility and
strength.

His Piety.

his

his bounds, and incroached upon the *Tartarian* Empire : This was no small enterprize, and therefore before he would begin the same, he sent Ambassadours to the King of *China* to demand restitution of his Lands, and the passages of a River called *Tachii*, which were within the *Tartarian* Border, and on this side that stupendious wall builded on purpose by the Kings of *China* for the defence of their Country against the incursions of the *Tartars* : and whilst he attended for the return of his Ambassadors, expecting a Negative answer, he caused his forces to be assembled together from all parts, appointing their rendezvous to be in the *Horda* of *Baschir* : The old Emperour also assembled for his aid, two hundred thousand fighting men, wherein were all the brave men of his Court that were accustomed to the wars : For this Emperour had greatly encreased his limits, and conquered a great Country, so as all these men were well trained up in the wars, and had been accustomed to travel and pains ; These were to joyn with *Tamerlanes* Army in the Deserts of *Erginul* at a certain day. In the mean time the Ambassadours which were sent, return and inform the Prince that this proud King of *China* wondred how any durst denounce war against him, making this lofty answer : *That Tamerlane should content himself with that which he had left him, which also he might have taken from him, &c.*

His Justice.

His preparations against the King of China.

The King of China's pride.

This answer being heard, our Prince marched directly to his Army, gave orders for conveyance of victuals from all parts, sent to hasten forwards his confederates, imparted the answer to the old Emperour, caused the insolence of the King of *China* to be published, that all the world might know the justness of his cause ; yet before his departure, he went to take leave of his own Father, who endued with a singular and Fatherly affection, kissed him a thousand times, made solemn prayers for his prosperity, drew off his Imperial Ring, and gave it him, telling him that he should never see him again, for that he was hastening to his last rest ; and calling *Qamar*, had him farewell, requiring his faithfulness to his Son.

His Piety towards his Father.

The Prince having performed this duty, returned to *Samercand*, where the Empress his wife remained, whom he took along with him in this journey, as the manner of that Country is, and so presently departed, committing the charge and care of his Kingdom in his absence to one *Samay*, a man well practised in State Affairs, who also had had the charge of our Prince in his youth.

These

These things being dispatched, he marched forwards in the midst of his Army, which consisted of fifty thousand horse, and a hundred thousand footmen, relying principally on the Forces of the great *Cham* his Uncle: yet he left order that the rest of his Forces should be ready to advance upon the first command, as soon as he should be joyned with his Uncles Army. In his march he was stayed by the way in regard of some distemper of his body, contracted by reason of his change of the aire, yet the Forces which *Catiles*, Captain of the Army of the great *Cham* conducted, went daily forwards. Now the news of his distemperature was bruted abroad in all places, yet did he not neglect to send to the great *Cham*, and often to advertise him of the state of his health, to the end that the same should not cause any alteration which might arise in that great Empire whereunto he was lately advanced: For he was very suspicious of a great Lord, named *Calix*, who was discontented with his advancement, and had not yet acknowledged him, as all other his subjects had: and indeed it was not without cause that he suspected him, for *Calix* being informed that the forces of the great *Cham* were advanced beyond the mountains, having passed the River of *Mean*, and were encamped at *Boupron*, and that *Tamerlane* was sick, he thought it a fit time for his enterprize, and thereupon assembling the greatest part of his most faithful followers, he told them that now was the time for them to shake off the yoke of the *Parthians*, who otherwise would enslave them; and seeing that now their Prince was so badly minded as to translate the Empire to *Tamerlane* of his own mind, without calling them to Council which had interest in the election, that this was the only means to assure their liberty, which otherwise was like to be lost. He caused also a rumour to be spread, that *Tamerlane* was very sick, the Emperour old and crazy, and that his forces were far separated from him; yet like cunning Traytors, they dispatched away a messenger to the great *Cham*, to assure him that they bended not their forces against him, but were his faithful and obedient Subjects; and they only armed themselves because they would not be governed by the *Parthians*, their ancient enemies.

As soon as our Prince was advertised of the pretences of *Calix*, he marched one daies journey forward, to the end that he might approach unto *Calibes*, who, what face soever he set on the matter, yet

His sickness.

His Policy.

The Rebellion
of *Calix*.

The Rebels
subtily.

The Life of Tamerlane the Great

yet hearkened what would become of *Calix*, that he might likewise make some commotion. This *Calix* was by *Tamerlane* made Commander of his Avanguard, which consisted of *Parthians*, yet he had joyned with him the Prince of *Thanais*, without whom he could not do any thing. *Tamerlane* also gave special commandment, that the passages (which were not many) should be diligently guarded, to the end that the King of *China* should not be advertised of these tumults: and so giving to *Odmar* the leading of his Avanguard, he hastened forwards; And surely it was high time for him so to do, or else all had been revolted: for *Calix* having assembled a hundred thousand fighting men, presented himself before the great City of *Cambalu*, chief of the Province of *Cahai*, the inhabitants whereof came out to meet him, receiving him with all the joy that might be.

Tamerlanes
Prudence.

His march a-
gainst Calix.

Tamerlane in his March went to *Caindu*, and from thence to *Calatia*, where he expected to meet with the forces of his native Country of *Sachetai*, yet did he not neglect to send forward his Army towards *Cambalu*, which caused the inhabitants, to their great terrour, to think that all his forces were already on their neck. *Calix* perceiving that the Citizens began already to repent his entertainment, thought it not safe to remain amongst them, and therefore, withdrawing himself, he sent for his forces from all parts, resolving to meet *Tamerlane* in the field, and to put all upon the event and hazard of a battel. He drew out of *Cambalu* fifty thousand men, whereof twenty thousand were Citizens, the other thirty thousand were the Garrison-Souldiers, placed there by the old Emperour, *Calix* having corrupted their Leaders, and so procured them to joyn with him in this revolt. In short, having assembled all his forces, his Army consisted of fourscore thousand horse, and one hundred thousand footmen, which he gathered from all parts.

Calix leaves
Cambalu.

The number
of Calix Army

In the mean time *Tamerlane's* Army marching forward, his Scouts, which were two thousand horse, had news of the Army of *Calix*, which came forward directly towards them, of which they speedily advertised the Emperour, who thereupon presently sent two thousand horse more, to the end that they should keep the passages of a certain River called *Brere*, by which River victuals were conveyed to his Army: as also to win time, the Prince well knowing that the motions of a Civil war are furious

Tamerlanes
Prudence.

at the beginning, and that therefore it's best to resist slowly, alwaies drawing them out at length, if it be possible. For when means, money and victuals fail, the people use to be sensible of their faults, and to return home.

The old Emperor sent to him to adventure all upon a battel, delivering up into his hands the safety of his life and estate, that thereby he might end his daies in peace. By this means forces came to *Tamerlane* on all hands, whose Army daily encreased; whereas on the contrary the enemies Army was then in its chiefest force, and began to feel the want of victuals.

Calix was about fourty years old, a Captain renowned with the great *Cham*, and one of the chiefest in dignity and place about him, so that many of the *Tartars* had alwaies respected him as a person most worthy of the Empire, if the glory of *Tamerlane* and his reputation had not so far exceeded.

The battel between *Tamerlane* and *Calix*.

The Armies began to be in view one of another about eight a clock in the morning, and many skirmishes began betwixt them before they came to the main Battel. The place wherein they met at that time, was a great Plain, with like advantage on either part. *Odmar* led the Avanguard, wherein were fourty thousand horse, and eighty thousand foot, which he divided into three squadrons; the first whereof he sent before him to begin the Battel. *Tamerlane* marched in the same order, but his squadrons were much stronger. The footmen of both made the right and left wings. *Tamerlane* had drawn out six thousand *Parthian* horsemen, and two thousand *Tartarian* for his Areareguard, which he committed to his faithful servant *Axalla*; a man of great judgment, quick of conceit, and in great esteem amongst the souldiers, although he, being a Christian, worshipped God in another manner then they did; and he had many other Christians with him, whom he had drawn from the *Georgians*, and the *Euxine Sea*, who fought with great agility.

Calix on the other side, who was a well spoken man, was exhorting and encouraging his Souldiers to fight for his Fortune, and the Liberty of their Nation; He divided his Army into three main Battels, himself remaining in the midst, encompassed with his Footmen, and so the Battels joyned, where, after a terrible fight, *Calix* fell into *Axalla's* hands, being taken fighting valiantly, which *Axalla* caused to be presently proclaimed through the

Calix beaten and taken prisoner.

the Army, to the overthrow of the courage of all the Adversaries, who hereupon immediately fled. *Calix* was kept till the next day, and then by a Council of War was adjudged to death; whereupon *Tamerlane* caused his head to be stricken off, the which he sent as a present to the inhabitants of *Cambalu*: The like he caused to be done to all the chief Leaders, not out of a cruel disposition, but enforced thereto by necessity, knowing very well that the way to cut off the foot of Civil War, is to punish the Heads of the same, which, as *Hydra's*, grow up too fast.

Calix condemned and executed.

After this, *Tamerlane* with his Army marched into the Kingdom of *Cathay*, a Country rich in grass, and all kind of pastures, abounding with great quantity of beasts and people, which knew not what War meant, and the Prince gave command that they should not be used as Enemies, but as his good Subjects; and whereas divers Cities had adheared to *Calix*, they came now and humbled themselves before him, craving pardon, which he gave them, enjoying them only to provide victuals for his Army, which also they willingly did. This example of Lenity was of no small importance for the appeasing of others, which had put all their hope in extremity, resolving to sell their lives dear, and especially the Inhabitants of *Cambalu* had taken this resolution, but being informed of the Emperours clemency, they changed their purpose: Yet as the Army daily approached nearer, their fears encreased, but *Tamerlane* was daily informed by his Friends in the City, that the inhabitants resolved to obey the Conqueror; and therefore leaving his Army at *Gonsa*, he only sent thirty thousand to the City, which was the ordinary Garrison, and within two hours after, entered the City himself, where he was received with great magnificence: yet would he not pronounce their pardon, but referred all to the old Emperour, and to the ordinary course of Justice: For which end he sent one of his Favourites to the old Emperour, to certify him of his Victory, of the death of *Calix*, and that the chief of his Faction remained prisoners with him; as also to know what Justice he would appoint to be inflicted upon those Citizens which were the authors of the revolt of this City, and so after eight daies he departed, and not many daies after, he had intelligence that the great *Cham*, his Uncle, had caused justice to be done on the chief movers of Sedition in *Cambalu*, so that

Tamerlane's march into *Cathay*.

Cambalu yielded to him.

His departure from *Cambalu*. His policy.

the people complained of the old Emperors cruelty, but commended the mercy of *Tamerlane*.

Odmar's good
Counsel.

Tamerlane's
speech to his
Army.

When he came back to his Army, he was received of all his souldiers with loud acclamations, calling him, *Most Great Emperor, and most Victorious*. Amongst his Captains he discoursed of the beauty and greatness of the City of *Cambalu*; and afterwards asked *Odmar* advise whether it were not best for him to visit the old Emperour, and with his Emperess to spend the Winter with him at *Quinsay*? *Odmar*, remembring the honour which he had received there, easily perceived his inclination to that journie, yet by all means dissuaded him from it: To which *Tamerlane* answered, that he had alwaies found his fidelity and love to him, which he vvas sorry that he could not recompence to the full; But (saith he) vvhwhereas I had thought to give my self some ease: I perceive that in stead of the delicacies, and pleasures of *Quinsay*, I must make the desarts of *Cipribit* my resting place after my travels in this nev्व victory: yet a rumor being spred that the Prince intended to visit the Emperor, every man began to desire to return into his ovvn Countrey, hoping to enjoy the sweetnes of his native soil: vvhich *Tamerlane* being informed of, calling his Army to a Rendevouz, he thus spake unto them, "We have (my faith-
ful souldiers) begun an enterprize against the King of *China*, vvh
hath of late repulsed even beyond the mountains, the *Tartarian*
name, but vvere hindred to our great grief by the foolish rash-
ness of *Calix*, and vwere driven to turn the bridle to punish him,
vvherein you have all assisted me. It grieves me that I cannot
as vvell boast of the fresh spoiles of a stranger, as I may (by the
means of your vveapons) of those of our unfaithful Subjects, and
as in times past of the fierce *Muscovites*, against vvhom, vvith your
assistance, I made trial of my first Arms: but for this last victory
being against our ovvn Subjects, I cannot speak of it vvithout
shedding tears, desiring to bury such victories in oblivion, toge-
ther vvith all the glory and honour gotten thereby. Neither
do I recount these things to you, but to shew that I forget not
your faithfulness, and the great travel you have endured for my
sake: We must not therefore be weary, but must turn our wea-
pons against those which imagine us to be full of troubles, where-
as we are indeed victorious: Our companions, and all our amu-
nition is advanced near to our enemy already; we must in that
place

“ place (my souldiers, and friendly followers) pass over the rest
“ of Winter ; Our Companions look for us ; our enemies are se-
“ cure , and look not for us at this season of the year, and know
“ that our Army that is already there, is not sufficient for offence,
“ but only for defence. - You shall receive double pay, the better
“ to furnish you against the injury of cold ; and as we shall be ap-
“ parelled with double garments, so I hope we shall be clothed
“ with double glory.

Having thus spoken, his souldiers all cried, *One God in Heaven,
and one Emperor on Earth*, shewing their willingness to obey his
commands.

The Prince after this, remained there eight daies longer, sending
back *Zamai* with twenty five thousand horse, and fifty thousand
foot to *Sachethay*, for the safety of his estate in those parts : and
so after solemn and publick prayers, the Army began to march
forwards : He forgot not likewise to dispatch away a Messenger
to the Great *Cham*, to acquaint him with all his purposes, which
he approved very well of: By the same Messenger he also beseeched
him in the Spring to send him fifty thousand men to recruit his
Army, and some moneys for the payment of his souldiers, which
also he granted ; sending also good store of warlike munition,
and plenty of victuals, knowing how much the success of the war
would advance the *Tartarian* greatness and profit.

His Piety.

The Army being upon their March, in thirty eight daies came
to *Cipribi*, yet met with many inconveniencies by the way. There
they had news of *Calibes*, who was glad to hear how busineses had
passed, and came to visit the Prince, who entertained him very
courteously, acquainting him with his purpose, and also understood
by him how all things passed in the Kingdom of *China*. The next
day the Prince came to *Pazanfon*, where *Calibes* forces were, who
had often fought with, and tried the valour of the *Chinois*, but
found it much inferiour to their own : There the Prince took a
general Muster of all his Army, caused them to be paid, took
notice of their Countenances, whiles they all cried out, *God save
the Victorious and Invincible Emperour*, according to their Cu-
stom.

His march to-
wards China.

The Prince of *Thanais*, who commanded the Army with *Ca-
libes*, had diligently viewed the wall, and the waies by which he
might forcibly enter into *China*, and had sent many Spies by cer-
tain

tain waies through the Mountains into that Countrey, by whom he was advertised of all their proceedings: He had also gained by his courtesie, a Lord of those Mountains, called the Lord of *Vanchesu*, that commanded over a great Countrey, who being desirous of a new Master, and to submit to *Tamerlane*, had told the Prince of *Thanais*, that he was able to do the Emperor good service, and to help him much in his wars against the *Chinois*: This the Prince of *Thanais* discovered to *Tamerlane*, who was very desirous to speak with this Lord; whereupon a day was appointed, and *Tamerlane* without moving of his Army, went to the Tents of the Prince of *Thanais*, where this foresaid Lord met him; and the Emperour having heaped upon him many gifts of fair horses, and rich Furs, and other rare things; this Lord spake thus unto him, "Know, my Lord, that it is but lost labour for you to think that with your Armies you shall be able to force this Wall, made by the *Chinois* to hinder the incursions of your Subjects: the Defendants have too much advantage therein; I doubt not of your Souldiers valour and courage, I know you have conquered many Nations with them, and that whatsoever you command them, they will effect it, or die in the enterprize: I know that you have great and wise Captains with you, and that you, of all persons in the world, are most worthy to command them: But all this will be but in vain against the wall of the *Chinois*, where, I assure you, are fifty thousand men to keep it; neither can you stay there so short a time, but there will come fifty thousand more to assist them, led by one *Xianxi*, who hath already received such a commandment: The King of *China* will himself follow, who will give you battel with two hundred thousand horsemen, and as many foot; and though happily your Fortune, and valour may carry away the victorie, yet I believe it will cost you dear: But to shew you how much the reputation and courtesies of your servants have prevailed with me, I will direct you in a way whereby fifty thousand of your men may go into *China*, whom I myself will conduct, and they shall come upon those which guard the Wall, in a manner before they are discovered. In the mean time you shall lead your Army to a place which I will direct you to, where you may win easily a Mountain which will give you great advantage against the *Chinois*. For I assure myself, that when they shall perceive your men to be passed; they

"will

A Chinois
Lord comes to
Tamerlane.

His speech to
Tamerlane.

“ will lose their courage, so that you may easily win the passage
 “ to assist your Army, which shall be led by me amongst them;
 “ and to assure you of my fidelity, I will deliver into your hands
 “ my Wife, my only Son, and two little Daughters. I have also
 “ one Brother, who, I assure my self, will follow me to do you
 “ service.

The Emperour having heard this, much rejoiced at it, hoping that his affairs would succeed happily, and kept this very secret, not revealing it to the Prince of *Thanais* himself, none being present at the discourse but the Lord and his Interpreter, and so heaping new favours upon him, he was conducted back by the Prince of *Thanais* with all the honour that might be.

Then the Emperour returned to his Quarters, and the next day imparted the whole matter unto *Odmar*; and then calling *Calibes*, he asked what he had learnt concerning *China* during his abode there: To which *Calibes* made this Answer, “ Know, my Lord,
 “ that I am your slave to obey you; but seeing you command me
 “ to give an account of all I know concerning the Kingdom of
 “ *China*, for that I have remained these six Moneths upon the
 “ Borders, I can assure you that the King of *China*, who now reign-
 “ eth, is of great reputation, and hath encreased the Limits of his
 “ Kingdom more then any of his Predecessors: His strength con-
 “ sisteth in this Wall, opposed against us, which he hath made to
 “ prevent the invades of our Nation: I believe there are above
 “ fifty thousand to defend it, and that of his best trained Souldiers,
 “ and I know no good means to force this Wall without much ha-
 “ zard and great loss of your men.

Calibes speech
to Tamerlane.

To this *Tamerlane* answered, I hope that the great God, whose honour I will defend against those Idolaters, will find out means to effect it; and so dismissing *Calibes*, he appointed his Army to remove to a certain place, where he meant to chuse out fifty thousand men, whom he would deliver to the Prince of *Thanais*, and *Axalla*; which accordingly he did, and directed them to follow this *Chinois* Lord, who was now again come to him, and to do as they should be directed by him: In the mean time himself, with all the rest of the Army approached the Wall directly over against *Quagnifou*.

Tamerlanes
confidence of
success.

The Army led by the Prince of *Thanais*, having marched ten leagues by the conduct of the *Chinois* Lord, entred without re-
 Forces sent in
to China.
 sistance,

sistance, and after a short repast, they marched directly towards those that guarded the Wall, who suspected no such matter, but only had an eye to those which came to force the Wall. But it fell out far otherwise, for just as *Tamerlane* with his Army came to the Wall, they saw *Axalla* with twenty thousand, being followed by the Prince of *Thanais* with thirty thousand choice soldiers more; who, without any words, fell upon the *Chinois*; and *Odmar*, who gave the first assault upon the Wall, easily in that distraction brake through, and so the *Chinois* were cut off between the two Armies: and *Axalla*, before the Prince of *Thanais* came up to him, had routed them; Great riches were gotten that day, and the King of *China's* Cozen was taken prisoner, much gold was found as well on their Arms, as on their horses furniture, but they shewed no great valour.

The news of this overthrow being carried to the King of *China*, who was now at *Quantifou*, it brought great astonishment to him, for that he judged it impossible to have been effected, so that every one was filled with tears, fears, and lamentations for their friends. Yet the King gathers forces from all parts, calling also the Priests, and such as had the charge of his unholy holies to come unto him, commanding them to offer sacrifices to their gods, whereof the Sun is the principal, requiring the same to be observed through all the Cities; and then that every one that was able to bear Arms, should mount on horseback, and speedily repair to the King at *Paguinfou*, whither he suspected that *Tamerlane* would march, for that it was one of the Cities nearest to the borders. In the mean time *Tamerlane* beat down the Wall, the better to assure his return, as also the Fortresses upon all the passages, all which upon his Victory were easily surrendered to him. He shewed himself very courteous to the people upon the Mountains, and gave to the Lord that had conducted his Army, a Country which, bordered upon his, wherein were seven or eight good Towns, who came and delivered up the Keys to him: He gave him also the Government of the Frontier-province of *Xianxi*, shewing himself to be a Prince of his word, and reserved the revwarding of his Brother till he had farther opportunity.

Whilst he was thus employed, news was brought him that the King of *China* had assembled his forces, and was marching forward, himself being there in person; as also that he had strengthened

The wall forced.
His first victory in China.

The King of China's tear.

The King of China's superstition.

The wall beaten down.

Tamerlane's courtesy.

His gratitude.

ened the Garrisons in all his Cities which of themselves were well fortified. Upon this intelligence *Tamerlane* called a Council of War, and having heard the opinions of all his Captaines, he resolved to take in some famous City, that thereby his Army might be better provided for, and then to give the King of *China* battel in the field. For the effecting of the first, he resolved to assault *Pagunfon*, which was a great City, strongly fortified, and well replenished with people; and for this end he sent *Odmar* with forty thousand horse to surround it, and to prevent the farther victualling of it, and to hinder the driving away of the cattel out of the champion-Country about it, which might nourish his Army: He also caused the Lord *Axalla* (whom now he had made Lieutenant General of all his foot) to follow *Odmar* with all his foot, which were near a hundred and fifty thousand men, well trained, and expert in war, himself marching immediately after with all his horsemen, Artillery, Engines, and other Ammunitions belonging to the war, directly to *Pagunfon*.

His Policy.

He besieges Pagunfon.

Odmar made such hast that he arrived unexpected by the Citizens, who rather looked for their King then for an enemy: and having taken much cattel, wherewith that Country abounded, he pitched his tents on the farther side of the City: There he continued two or three daies, giving the City many Alarms, till the Infantry led by that brave Christian *Genuois* shewed themselves in the Plain of *Pagunfon*: Then was the City summoned, but they returned answer, *That they were resolved to live and die in the service of their Prince*. By the way you must understand, that about forty years before, the Father of this present King of *China* had conquered this City and Country from the *Tartars*, and had so planted the same with new Colonies, that but few of the *Tartarians* remained, except only in the flat Country, and some small walled Towns, who all came with their Keies, and willingly submitted to *Tamerlane*, whereby he had great plentie of victuals in his Army, which made him hope for good success; there being nothing that doth sooner overthrow great Armies, then the want thereof.

Formerly taken from the Tartars.

Thus was *Pagunfon* besieged round, the footmen lying within a flight-shoot of the wals, the Citizens and souldiers using their best endeavour for their defence, and *Tamerlane* doing the like for their offence.

A Suburb taken by storm.

Axalla having viewed a great Suburb, which was in length almost half a league, supposed that the Citizens kept no watch there, and therefore acquainting the Emperor with his purpose, in the first watch of the night, his men being all ready with scaling Ladders, he assaulted the same in sundry places, and after a great fight entered and cut in pieces at least eight thousand men which were within the same: yet on one side where they expected to be assaulted, he lost many of his men. The taking of this Suburb did greatly astonish the Citizens, who observing the valour of the *Tartarians*, began to suspect their own safety: By this Suburb there ran a River, which being now under the command of *Axalla*, he stopt all provision from going to the City.

The wall won.

Tamerlanes Prudence.

The City surrendered.

Axalla's mortality.

In the meantime the King of *China's* Army approached, which was very great; whereupon the Emperor determined to go in person, and meet him with the greatest part of his horsemen, but to leave most of his foot to continue the siege, being very desirous to take the City; for the accelerating whereof, he caused his Engines for battery to approach, as Rams, and such like; so that the City was assaulted on two sides very courageously, and in the end, through the valour of *Axalla*, who gave an assault with twenty thousand of his best souldiers, he won the wall, and at the command of the Emperor lodged there, who desired rather to have the City by Treaty than storm, the City being great and rich, and the enemy but thirty leagues from thence, and therefore he feared lest his Army should be found in disorder, and knowing also, that rich souldiers never fight well. Besides, he intended to draw out of that wealthy City such things as he stood in need of, and to make it his Magazine for the time to come. Yet though the wall was won, the enemies wanted not heart to defend themselves valiantly, hearing that their King was coming for their relief: but it so happened, that an Engine shooting a bullet, slew the governor; whereupon the Citizens were so discouraged, that they resolved to yield, saving their lives, and the souldiers to march away with horse and arms. The conditions were admitted, and there came out of the City eighteen thousand souldiers, almost all the inhabitants remaining behind: This siege had lasted two moneths, and the City had in it at first, thirty thousand souldiers. *Axalla* had the honour of winning this City, and therefore was made Governor of it, and all the Country belonging to it; but he beseeched

the

the Emperor to bestow it upon some other person, reserving for himself the hope of his Matter, in whose fortune he would take part: This gave great content to *Tamerlane*, who much desired the service of *Axalla*; and upon his refusal, the charge was conferred upon the Prince of *Thanais*, with the title of *Vice-Roy*: Then did *Tamerlane* give notice of his affairs to the old Emperor, and having paid his souldiers, and settled all things in the best manner he could, he marched forward; and taking a general Muster of his whole Army, Horse and Foot, he found them to be diminished ten thousand men only. And so with his army he spent one whole day in prayer, calling upon the immortal, invincible, invincible, and incomprehensible God, and then went directly to meet the enemy, who was at *Sinichu* with all his own and the forces of his allies, and as soon as he received news that *Tamerlanes* Army was advanced over the River of *Chulifu*, the King of *China* marched directly towards them with great magnificence: There was nothing to be seen in his Army, but Gold and precious stones: He himself usually rode in a Chariot whereof every part shone with Gold, Pearls, Rubies, and Diamonds. He was of the age of about three and thirty, and had been brought up in pleasures, and not under the bloody ensigns of *Mars*: So that he was very insolent in threatnings, bravadoes, and defying to the battel: He often accused *Tamerlane* for surprizing him before he was ready, not giving him warning, &c.

Tamerlane's
Piety.

The riches of
the Chinois.

The rumour of his riches so fired the spirits of the *Tartarians*, that they longed to be at the battel: and so both sides hastened forwards, and in the way, there was a City, called *Tunichewoy*, surrendered to *Tamerlane*, which afforded him much refreshing for his Army: And thus the two Armies drawing near together, *Tamerlane* made choice of a place in his judgment most advantageous for the battel; and having set down to *Odmar* the Order which he would have to be observed, he longed to see his enemy; Then did he send before him five or six thousand horse, as Scouts, under *Calibes*, and himself went with them, and having viewed the great confused Army of his enemies, which came continually forward, he commanded *Calibes* to retire himself so soon as they drew near to him, And bring (saith he) this great cloud to me, which I hope soon to disperse: and so retiring to his Army, he encouraged them, assuring them of the Victory. He placed all his

Tamerlane
prepares for
the Battel.

footmen, which were about a hundred and twenty thousand, along a mountain, planting great store of Artillery for their guard; Many of his foot-souldiers were armed after the Christian manner, who were all commanded by *Axalla*: His horsemen were in a Battalia in a great plain, who upon any disadvantage could retire to the assistance of the Footmen: the horsemen were eighty thousand; *Calibes* with the *Scythians* were in the Avantguard, being thirty thousand horse, who were to receive *Odmarr* when he should retreat from the enemy, as he was commanded; Thirty thousand more were appointed for *Odmarr*, and *Tamerlane* himself remained in the Arrear at one of the wings of his footmen: His purpose was to let that sixty five thousand horse under two such gallant Captains, to break the force of the enemy, hoping after them to have a good market, causing his foot to march forward, and reserving with himself twenty thousand of his best horse, who of themselves were able to make a new battel if any mischance should befall the former: For he understood that it was the custom of the Kings of *China* to enclose themselves in the midst of their Chariots with their footmen, and not to hazard their persons, but upon extremity.

The Battel
begins.

The *Chinois* failed not to march directly unto *Calibes*, the whole Army following and setting upon him: *Calibes* with his six thousand *Scythian* horse, after their usual manner, in retreating gave many charges, giving and receiving hurt. The King of *China* marched with much gallantry with his Army, which seemed to be twice so big as that of *Tamerlane's*: He had very many armed Chariots, wherein he put his principal trust; they had much Gold and Silver, as well in the trappings of their horses, as on their Armour, which glistred exceedingly against the Sun, to the admiration of the *Tartars*. *Tamerlane*, who with a troop of horse beheld the *Chinois* marching after *Calibes*, commended greatly the drawing forth of their men to compel *Calibes* to fight, endeavouring to discover and note with his eye the place whereabouts the Kings person was, having by him the *Chinois* Lord to instruct him, who knew well the manner of their fight. They had no Avantguard, but were all in a gross, commanded by the King, inclosed within his chariots, which being shewed to *Tamerlane* by this Lord, he turned to those Captains that were near him, and said, *Yet must we disperse this guilded cloud, and the King of China and my self must make a partition thereof.*

Thus

Thus having sufficiently viewed the enemy, and observed their manner of marching, he thought it not convenient to suffer them to take breath, nor to rally, being something disordered in their march, whereupon he sent to *Calibes* to will him to begin the fight; and when those that were with him should be weary, to retreat to him: But as soon as his *Scythians* heard this word *Fight*, they required the first charge, with a young Lord that commanded over them called *Ziochabanes*, making it to appear to the *Chinois*, to what end their former flight was, charging very furiously upon the foremost of the enemies, which occasioned the first beginning of the Battle: And indeed there could not be seen a more gallant onset, wherein the *Scythians* desired to manifest the valour of their Nation, and to procure honour to their Prince. This fight endured a long hour before they had overthrown *Calibes*: *Tamerlane* beheld all patiently, saying, that the great multitude (how disorderly soever they were) would at length carry it away from the order and valour of his souldiers; yet could there not be discerned any alteration of his countenance, adversity and prosperity being both alike so indifferent to him.

The Scythians charge the Chinois.

Tamerlanes Constancy.

Calibes being wounded, retired himself near to the Emperour, having with him two thousand horse that were rallied again, many more flocking to him: The Emperour viewed his wound, causing him to be conducted behind his footmen, and care to be taken for the dressing of his wound, and of such others as were wounded with him. *Calibes* with his thirty thousand *Scythians* was not able to charge through the *Chinois*, but when they retreated, *Odmar* with his *Parthian* horsemen advanced forward, and used them more roughly, for he ran clean through them, and returned by the right wing of the Army, where he fought most valiantly, and having beaten them within the Kings Chariots, he thought he should not do wisely to attempt the breaking of such forces.

Calibes wounded retreats.

The Parthians charge thron

The King of *China* coming forwards, and the horsemen that had been broken by *Odmar*, joyning themselves to him, *Odmar* sent to *Tamerlane*, desiring him that the Footmen and Artillery might advance forward, sending him word that he might assure himself of the Victory. Hereupon *Tamerlane* commanded *Axalla* to advance with fifty thousand foot, and part of the Artillery, requiring him to set upon the Chariots, and to make an entrance. The Artillery marching in the first place did greatly astonish the

The foot charge.

enemy; for the Governours of the horses belonging to the Kings Chariots could not rule them; it made also a great spoil. *Axalla* perceiving the disorder, hifted forwards till they came to hand-blows. The King of *China* had yet about his person a hundred and fifty thousand men: Yet *Axalla*, full of courage, fought so valiantly, that they never beheld any man to do more bravely. During this fight, *Odmar* again charged the horsemen that were retired to the Kings aid, and put them to flight. Then did *Tamerlane* himself march forward with the rest of the Footmen for the aid of *Axalla*, and brake through, even to the person of the King of *China*, who as yet was enclosed within a second rank of Chariots, with about thirty or forty thousand men, and after he had fought two or three hours, the horse assisting the foot, and they principally whom the Prince had kept as a reserve, the King at length remained wounded, in the power of *Tamerlane*: The battel being won, and the enemies camp forced. The fight endured eight hours, and the night coming on, saved the lives of many of the *Chinois*. There were slain two Kings, Allies to the King of *China*. Inestimable riches were gotten in golden vessels, precious stones, and as fair and rich Chariots as could possibly be seen.

The Emperor would not see the captive King till the next day: but being mounted on horseback he rode about the field to stay the slaughter, & to rally his men, that the accustomed watch might be kept, whereof he gave the charge unto *Axalla*, commanding him also to keep the King of *China* in the midst of his souldiers, who was dressed of the wound which he had received in his right arm. It was a strange sight to see the diversity of the enemies weapons, and the variety of their Streamers and Ensigns, which seemed afar off as beautiful, as the diversity of colours, plentiful. The King of *China*'s Army was very great, consisting of a hundred and fifty thousand horse, and two hundred thousand footmen: but the greatest part of them were rude and barbarous people, far inferiour to *Tamerlane*'s in valour, who suffered themselves to be slain one upon another, not marking their advantages, and having little skill in warlike affairs.

Tamerlane continued on horseback till about two a clock in the morning, when as they brought him a Tart, and his water, for he never drank wine, and then lying down upon a Carpet, he passed the rest of the night until morning. After this so great a victory,

Axalla's valor.

Tamerlane chargeth.

The King of *China* beaten.

Tamerlane's
imperance.

victory, there was never the least boasting or vaunting heard to proceed out of his mouth. The next day, after the burial of the dead, he publicly gave thanks to God for his Victory. Then caused he the wounded to be cured, and amongst others, *Calibes*, who, more through the distemperature of the air then from the danger of the wound, found himself very ill, yet would he not omit his duty in commanding the Van, which was very grateful to *Tamerlane*, for that he being a *Scythian*, was greatly beloved of his Nation.

His humility
and modesty.
His Piety.

These things being dispatched, he sent unto *Axalla* to bring forth his prisoner, the King of *China*; and when he approached, the Emperor issued out of his Tent and went to receive him. This King came with a very proud and haughty countenance, and approaching near to the Emperor, he by his Interpreter, asked of *Axalla* which was he? and being shewed him, he spake in an haughty language after this manner: *The gods whom I worship, being provoked against my Nation and people, have conspired against my good fortune, and made me this day thy prisoner: But forasmuch as it is reported over all the world, that Tamerlane maketh war for the honour of his Nation, thou shouldst be content with this thy glory, that the Lord of the world and child of the Sun, is in thy power, to receive such Laws as thou pleasest to prescribe unto him.* This he spake in a brave manner, without any other humbling of himself: The Emperor on the other side saluting him very courteously, led him into his Tent.

The King of
China brought
before him.

The King of
China's proud
speech.

Tamerlane's
courtesie.

This King of *China* was a great Prince, having two hundred famous Cities within his Kingdom; which also is a fruitful and plentiful Countrey, wherein are Mines of Gold and Silver, much Musk and Rhubarb: It abounds in Fish and Fowl, and hath much Silk and Porclane, with Cotton and Linnen, &c.

The riches of
China.

Then did *Tamerlane* assemble his Captaines to consult about the disposal of the King; and how the Victory should be best improved. At the same time he received news by *Odmar*, that the Kings brother, who escaped out of the battel, was at *Quanton*, which he had strongly fortified; and that great store of forces began to adjoyn themselves to him: Hereupon he commanded two thousand *Parthian* horse to convey the King to *Paguinfou*, and from thence to *Burda*, where he was to be kept carefully. Then did he resolve upon the besieging of *Quanton*, and if it were possible

ble

Quantou be-
sieged.

ble to shut up the Kings Brother therein, it being one of the principal seats that belonged to the King of *China*. It was forty leagues from the place where the battel was fought. Thither therefore he sent a good party of his Army under *Odmar*, who pitched his Tents about the City: But the Kings brother was gone. The Emperor in the mean time summoned, and took in many lesser Cities, which yielded wholly to his mercy, making great lamentation for their Captive King, yet the gentleness of the Conqueror made them to take all their losses with patience, and the rather, because they heard that he used their King courteously. The Kings brother also sent Ambassadors to *Tamerlane*, craving leave to see the King, and to know of his health, which the Emperor willingly assented to.

Odmar's Po-
licy.

Now the Kings brother hearing of the estate of the besieged in *Quantou*, he resolved either to relieve it, or to fight a battel, for which end he advanced strait unto *Porchio*, making a bridge of Boats to pass over the River: But *Odmar* being informed that about fifty thousand of his men were come over, he suddenly set upon them, being out of order, and not informed of their enemies approach; also to prevent the coming over of the rest to their assistance, he sent a fire-boat down the stream against their bridge of Boats, which brake it in sunder, and where it was resisted, set all on fire; and so in a great battel overthrew them; The King of *Cauchin-China*, who was amongst them, fighting valiantly, was slain. The Kings brother, who was on the other side of the River (not yet come over) saw his men slain and drowned, and could not relieve them. This second overthrow was of no small importance, though it was but the third part of the Kings brothers Army. For the Citizens of *Quantou* hearing of it, and despairing of relief, sent out some Proposals for their Surrender.

The King of
China's bro-
ther over-
thrown.

Axalla which received them, presently dispatched away a faithful messenger to the Emperor to know his pleasure therein: This was more welcome news to him then the overthrow of his enemies, wherefore he referred all to the sufficiency and fidelity of *Axalla*: So that upon treaty, the City was surrendered to *Axalla*, who caused the Garrison to come out, and received the inhabitants into the Emperors protection, and all that would, might continue in it unarmed: afterwards he entred into it, and was received with

Quantou sur-
rendred.

with great signs of joy by the Inhabitants, who resolved to entertain the Emperour with all the solemnity that might be. *Axalla* put thirty thousand men into it for a Garrison, injoyning the Citizens to pay the Emperours Army four hundred and fifty thousand Crowns: Presently after he received a command from the Emperour to stay in the City himself, and to send all the rest of his footinen unto him, which he commanded the rather, because he understood that Ambassadors were coming to him from the Kings

Tamerlane's Policy.

Brother to treat of Peace, and he presumed the sight of all his Army together ready to march, would strike such a terrour into them, as would cause them the readilier to assent to good terms. The Ambassadors sent by the Kings brother were of their chiefest men, whom *Tamerlane* entertained with all humanity, causing his greatness to appear to them, as also the activity of his horsemen, whereby they might discern that it would tend to the destruction of their Country if they agreed not with him: Then did the Ambassadors deliver their message, which consisted of two branches: One was for the delivery of their King, the other, for the preservation of their Country: The Emperour answered, that they should deliver their message in writing, and he would give a speedy answer: Their Propositions were, that they would leave *Paguinfou*, and all the Country beyond it, with all the Fortresses of the mountains in *Tamerlanes* possession: That they would pay all the charges of his Army from that day forward: And that they would give two millions of gold for the ransom of their King: To this the Emperor answered, that he would keep that which he had conquered within the Country, being his own, as taken by his arms. That he would have the River by which his Army was now encamped, and so along to the Sea, to be his Frontiers: That the King of *China* should pay him yearly two hundred thousand Crowns, which should be delivered at *Paguinfou*, for acknowledgement of his submission to his Empire: That he should pay five hundred thousand Crowns in ready money for the charge of his Army: That the King of *China* should be delivered, and that all the other *Chinois* prisoners should pay ransomes to particular men that took them, except those which carried the names of Kings, who should pay ten thousand Crowns for their liberty and peace: And that no *Chinois* should be kept for a slave, nor sold for such hereafter, being under the Emperours obedience: That Traffick, and enter-

The Ambassadors proposals.

Tamerlane's proposals.

D

course

Peace concluded.

The King of China delivered.

Odmar made Gouverneur.

Tamerlanes gratitude.

His Prudence

His possessions in China.

His return into Tartary.

course of Merchants should be free between both the Nations : That the King of *China* should deliver his Brother, and two other called Kings, with twelve principal men of the Country, for Hostages to secure the peace : These conditions, after they had consulted together, were accepted of, hoping that time would restore again their ancient liberty, and in the mean time they must bear the yoke of the Conquerour. Then did *Tamerlane* send two thousand horse to fetch the King of *China*, that being at liberty he might solemnly swear to the peace; which accordingly he did, delivered the Hostages, and so went into his Kingdom to perform the other Articles, where he was almost worshipped as a God, and received with all the joy that might be.

Thus *Tamerlane*, having settled his affairs, and provided for the assurance of his new conquest, left *Odmar* to govern the same, leaving with him thirty thousand horse, and fifty thousand foot to furnish all the Fortresses and strong places, giving him in charge to make his chief residence at *Quantifou*, to fortifie well the passages, and to build a new Fort at *Dermio*, the better to strengthen his borders : He also left him all necessaries, and commended to him the Lord of the mountains, who had been so serviceable to him ; His brother he took with him, giving him large preferment in *Zacheshay* : He also carried along with him many of the new conquered people, to plant them in his own Country, sending o her Colonies in their stead, which he did, because he found them a light people, and such as affected novelties.

Tamerlane sent to acquaint the old Emperour with all these things, having two of the greatest and fairest Cities in all *China* in his possession, and an hundred Leagues of Land, extending his borders to a River, by which he might go to the Enemy, but they could not come to him without passing over the same : He desired also above all things, that all the Idols which were within his conquest should be beaten down, and commanded the worshipping of one God.

Then did his Army, wherein was much sickness, begin to march, and *Tamerlane* hearing of more forces that were coming towards him out of *Tartary*, he sent to stop them, commanding them to march to *Cambalu*, whither himself also was going, hearing that the old Emperour intended to meet him, and to entertain him with great magnificence in that City.

Odmar

Odmar being thus severed from *Tamerlane's* side, all his favour was turned to *Axalla*, of whose prudence, valour, and fidelity he had such large experience in these Wars, so as the report of his valour did flye thorow all the Empire. In the retreat, *Calibes* led the Avantguard, and *Axalla* was in the Buttel near to the Emperour, who bestowed upon him two hundred thousand Crowns yearly to maintain his ordinary expences. And thus after certain daies journey, news was brought of the old Emperours arrival at *Cambalu*: wherefore *Tamerlane*, leaving his Army to winter in a fair and fertile Country, and dismissing many of his souldiers, he hastened thitherwards, and when he was arrived within four Leagues of *Cambalu*, all the Princes of the Emperours Court came to receive him there, together with all the chiefest Citizens, to congratulate his admirable success: The Prince received every one according to his wonted courtesie, yet retaining convenient Majesty, and was beheld by all with great contentment: He had with him the Empress his wife, who had not left him in all his journey: And the next day, the old Emperour honoured him so much as to come to meet him, with all the magnificence that might be. *Tamerlane* presented him with all the richest Chariots and fairest horses that he had won: and the old Emperour, being very desirous to see his daughter, her Chariot was uncovered, and he caused her to enter into his own: But the Prince remained on horseback, whom the eyes of all the people could not be satisfied with admiring. *Tamerlane* also presented *Calibes* to the Emperour, making a recital of all his faithfulness; whereupon the Emperour gave him an hundred thousand Crowns for the encrease of his pension: He also presented *Axalla* to the Emperour, who being informed of his valour, gave unto him a hundred thousand *Tartarines* of Gold in a Principallity, that he might declare how much he esteemed his fidelity.

His liberality.

His entertainment at *Cambalu*.

His presents to the old Emperour.

During *Tamerlanes* abode at *Cambalu* this winter, complaints came to him that *Bajazet* the Great Turk, had attempted to joyn the Empire of *Greece* to his own, resolving also upon the siege of *Constantinople*, whereupon the Emperour of *Greece* sent to him to crave his aid. *Axalla* who was of kin to this Emperour, *Paleologus*, being desirous to maintain the Christian Religion in *Greece*, stirred him up much unto this war: whereupon he sent Ambassadors to *Bajazet*, to warn him in his name, not to molest the *Greek* Empe-

He is stirred up against *Bajazet*.

He sends Ambassadors.

Bajazets proud
answer.

rour, who was his Confederate: But *Bajazet* answered them very proudly, asking them what their Matter had to do therewith, and that he should content himself with injoyning Laws to his own Subjects, and not to meddle with him who was none of them.

Tamerlane's
preparations
against him.

This answer being returned, by *Axalla's* means was very ill taken, so that *Tamerlane* resolved to hinder this enterprize of the *Ottamans*: for which end he obtained of the Emperour his Uncle, an hundred thousand footmen, and eighty thousand horsemen, hoping to have as many from his own Country of *Sachetay*, besides the Lords who would accompany him to win glory, from whom he made account of fifty thousand men more that they would bring along with them. Thus he departed from *Cambalu*, taking his leave of the old Emperour his Father in Law, and of the Princess his wife (then left behind him for the comfort of her aged Father) and departed towards *Samercand*, the place of his birth and seat of his Empire, leaving the forces, granted him by the Emperour, to come after him to *Ozara*, where he had appointed the general rendezvous of his Army. This his departure was very grievous to the old Emperour, but more grievous on the Princes part towards his wife, who had never left him since they were first married: But nothing could withhold this brave Prince where honour was to be purchased, or where he might be profitable to his oppressed friends; For he would often say, That *he was born to this end, and that all his other employments were but by the By, God having appointed and called him to punish the pride of Tyrants.*

H
Tamerlane's
speech.

He was accompanied with *Calibes*, and made the Prince of *Thanais*, Colonel of all his footmen, which place *Axalla* had left, whom now he made Lieutenant Gen. of all his Army, with command to lead his Avantguard, and *Calibes* the Arereward. Forces came to him from all parts: And the *Chinois* Lord, being licensed by *Odmar*, marched towards him with twenty thousand men of his Subjects newly conquered, being desirous to shew his forwardness to the Emperour, as also to learn the manners and fashions of strange Countries. When *Tamerlane* came near *Samercand*, *Zamay* went to meet him, and neer a million of people, blessing and praising him with all manner of Songs: There he remained about a month: In which space *Axalla* had rendezvouzed his Army at *Ozara*, from whence also he advertised *Tamerlane* of the proceedings

His entertain-
ment at Samer-
cand.

proceedings of *Bajazet*. Then did *Tamerlane* send for him to *Samerchand* to confer with him about the setting forward of his Army. For although he was still accompanied with renowned Princes and famous Captains; yet were they no body in comparifon of *Axalla*, whose found judgment and counfel had won him fuch credit with his Lord and Mafter, as by his advife he did all things, and without him nothing, which his fo great authority and favour with his Prince, wanted not the envy of the Court; but that his great vertues, and rare-found courtesie (in fo great fortune) together with fo many great fervices as he had done, fupported him againft the malice of the fame. He, upon this command from *Tamerlane*, leaving the charge of the Army at *Ozara* with the Prince of *Thanais*, came to *Samerchand*, and there difcoursed with him at large concerning the eftate and order of his Army: and fo, fhortly after, they all departed to *Ozara*, where a new confultation was held by which way he fhould conduct his Army: as whether it was better to lead them by the coaft of the *Muscovite* directly towards *Capha*, or on the other fide of the *Caspian* Sea, by the skirts of *Perfia*; and after much difcounfe, and fundry opinions with their reasons delivered, it was refolved (although the way were the longer) to pafs by the *Muscovite*, fo to come to the *Georgians*, and to *Trepizond*, and from thence to enter into the *Ottamans* Kingdom.

Envy attends
Vertue.

This being refolved on, they marched forward till at length they came to *Maranis*, where he ftayed three daies, looking for the *China* forces, whereof they received news: There alfo *Tamerlane* mustered and paid his Army: He had alfo news of fifteen thoufand horfemen fent him by the *Muscovite*, with a fum of money, with leave for him to pafs thorow fo much of his Territories as fhould be neceffary, being glad that he fet upon others, rather than on himfelf; and that fuch great preparations fhould fall upon them, whose greatnefs was as dreadful and dangerous to him as any other.

His march to-
wards *Bajazet*.

His Auxiliaries.

Tamerlane caufed a great quantity of victuals, and moft part of the furniture of his Army to be fent along the *Caspian* Sea, which was a great eafe and commodity to his men, which, marching by Land, was of neceffity to pafs fome twenty Leagues thorow places deftitute both of victuals and water: Himfelf all the way coafting along the Sea fhore, paffed his time in Hunting and

His Prudence.

Hawking, to make the journey less tedious, his Army not coming near him by ten Leagues, which was so great that it extended itself full twenty Leagues.

The Georgians
assist him.

Coming to the River *Edel*, he stayed at *Zarazich*, whilst his Army passed the River at *Mechet*, and over two other Bridges that he had caused to be made of boats for that purpose. Now the *Circassians*, and *Georgians*, hearing of the approach of *Tamerlane* with his huge Army, by their Ambassadors offered him all the help and assistance they could afford him in his journey, as he passed that way. These *Georgians* were and yet are Christians, a great and warlike people, of long time tributaries to the *Greek* Emperours; and afterwards sometime tributaries, and sometimes confederates to the *Persians*: but always enemies to the *Turks*, and therefore glad they were of *Tamerlane's* coming against them. Of these warlike people *Axalla* drew great numbers to the service of his Prince, who not a little esteemed of them, being all tall men, very beautiful, of great strength and courage, and withal, most expert souldiers, as having many times resisted the power of the *Ottoman* Kings, by reason of the advantage of their Country, which was rough, mountainous, and hard to come to. These people every where kindly entertained *Tamerlane*, and plentifully relieved his Army with all necessities. In passing thorow which, and other Countries, he took such order with his souldiers, that none of the people by whom they passed were any whit injured by them, insomuch that if a souldier had taken but an Apple or any other trifle, he died for it. And one of his souldiers having taken a little Milk from a Country-woman, and she thereof complaining, he caused him presently to be hanged, and his stomach to be ript, where the Milk that he had lately drunk, being found, he payed the woman for it, who had otherwise without mercy died for her false accusation: Which his great severity was, indeed the preservation of his Army, being so great, as that it was thought impossible to provide it with victuals, whereof yet there was no want, nor of any other thing necessary for the relief of man: his Camp being still as a most populous and well-governed City, stored with all manner of things, whereunto both Artificers and Merchants resorted from far Countries with their commodities as to some famous Mart: and the Country-people from every place, without fear, brought in their Country-commodities, for which they received present money, and so departed in peace.

His strict discipline.

So marching on, he at length came to *Bachishich*, where he staid to refresh his Army eight daies, and there again took a general muster of them, finding, as some write, four hundred thousand horse, and six hundred thousand foot; but others that were present with him, say, three hundred thousand horse, and five hundred thousand footmen of all Nations: There also he generally payed them, and as his manner was, made an oration to them, informing them of such Orders as he would have observed, with much other military discipline, whereof he was very curious with his Captains.

His huge Army.

In the mean time *Bajazet* would not believe that *Tamerlane* durst once look towards him, yea, so exceeding barbarous was he, that he would not so much as suffer any man to speak of him, or his Army to him, by reason of his pride: He also strictly forbade all the bordering people to make any vows or prayers for *Tamerlanes* prosperity: But he was soon after awakened out of this Lethargy, as we shall presently hear. Indeed *Tamerlane* could hardly be perswaded that *Bajazet*, having subdued the greatest part of *Grecia*, and much distressed the *Greek* Emperour, and having so great means to recover whatsoever he should lose in *Asia*, would be so adventurous as to come over the streights out of *Europe* to try the Fortune of a battel with him: but rather warily to protract the time, to weary him with wants, that in a strange Country, drew such a world of people after him: vvherein yet he found himself much deceived, for vvhhen he had passed the *Georgian* Country, and vvas come to *Buisabnich*; *Axalla* (vvhom he had not seen in eight daies before, because he commanded the Vanguard of the Army) came to him vvith such nevvs as he knew vvhould be most grateful to him: Which was, that *Bajazet* had raised his siege before *Constantinople* to come and defend his nev्व conquests in *Asia*, and that he vvas certainly resolved to come to a pitched Battel vvith him, not so much trusting to the multitude of his men, as to the experience and valour of his souldiers, being long trained up in the Wars. At vvhich unexpected nevvs *Tamerlane* greatly rejoyced, yet vvithout insolency and vaunting, but rather vvith the countenance of such an one as judged the event of Battels to be alwaies doubtful; saying sometimes, That a small number well conducted, did carry away the victory from the confused multitude. Three daies after he staid at *Buisabnick*, causing his souldiers continually to march

Bajazets Pride.

Bajazet advanced towards him.

Tamerlanes moderation.

He passeth the
River Euphra-
tes.

Turkish pride.

Turks beaten

Sebastia taken.

March forward, who, at two places, passed over the river *Euphrates*, which he did, the rather to maintain his Army upon the spoile of the Enemies Country, chusing rather there to attend *Bajazet* coming, then amongst his friends and allies. All the Cities that yielded to him in the way as he marched, he favourably received; the other that refused to submit themselves to his obedience, he used with all extremity, especially the great and strong City of *Sebastia*, where certain of the forerunners of his Army, were by the *Turks* that kept Garrison in it, cut off and slain, and to despite him the more, the City gates were set open in contempt of him: Whereupon being justly offended, he sent out certaine *Tartarian* horsemen, charging them upon pain of his displeasure so to behave themselves against their enemies, that at his coming up to them he might find either the City taken, or at least the Gates shut up against him: And he had his men at so great command, that no danger was unto them more dreadful than his displeasure, neither did he punish any thing so severely as cowardize. Now the *Turks* in *Sebastia* seeing these *Tartarian* horsemen marching towards the City, making little account of them, because their number was not great, issued out to meet them, where they were so furiously charged by these few horsemen, that they were glad to retire, and for haste to shut the gates against some of their own men, lest the enemy should have entered pell mell with them, which *Turks* were there slaine at the gates of the City. Shortly after came *Tamerlane* with all the rest of his Army, and sat down before the City, where he lay still seven daies not making any shew of violence at all. The defendants, because the City was of great strength, thought that his purpose was by a long siege to distress the same: But about the eighth day, the Towers, and Walls being undermined in sundry places, suddenly fell down, leaving large breaches for the enemy to enter; wherewith the *Turks* being dismayed surrendered the City to *Tamerlane* in hope so to have saved their lives, but he caused them all to be buried quick, and the City utterly to be razed: and then calling the Governour, whose life he had spared for that end, he bade him go and tell his Master what had happened to his strong City of *Sebastia*, and what himself had seen there; of which Tragical action, when the Governour had made report to *Bajazet*, he demanded of him whether of the two Armies he thought bigger or stronger; for he had

had now assembled a mighty Army of three hundred thousand horse, and two hundred thousand footmen; whereunto the Governour, having first craved pardon, answered: That it could not be in reason, but that *Tamerlane* had the greater Army, for that he commanded over far greater Countries: wherewith proud *Bajazet* being offended, replied in great Choller; *Out of doubt the sight of the Tartarian hath so affrighted this coward, that he thinks every enemy to be two.* As *Bajazet* marched forward he heard a Countrey-Shepherd merrily pleasing himself with his homely pipe as he sat on the side of a mountain feeding his small flock, whereupon he stood still, and listned to him to the admiration of many, and at last brake forth into these words, *O happy shepherd, which hadst no Sebastia to lose!* bewraying therein his own discontentment, and yet withal, shewing that worldly blis consisted not so much in possessing of much, subject unto danger, as in enjoying content in a little, devoid of fears.

Bajazets arrogance.

Note.

The rest of the Cities as *Tamerlane* marched forwards, warned by the destruction of *Sebastia*, yielded to him, the Citizens whereof he used courteously, especially the Christians, whom he set at liberty for the *Greek* Emperors sake, whom he sought therein to gratifie.

Tamerlanes favour to the Christians.

But *Tamerlane* had not gone far into the *Turks* dominions before he was certainly informed that *Bajazet* was coming against him with a mighty Army, and was now within thirty leagues of him, which caused him from thence forward to march with his Army more close together. *Axalla* leading the Van, sent forth *Chianfon*, Prince of *Ciarchan*, with four thousand *Parthian* horsemen, to get knowledge of the *Turkish* Army, and where *Bajazet* lay, as also what manner of Countrey it was beyond *Sennas*, and if he could learn any thing thereof, to make relation of it to him. This Prince of *Ciarchan* was *Tamerlanes* near kinsman, a man of great reputation, and next to *Axalla*, in whose absence he had the command of the Avantguard, who also sent before him another *Parthian* Captain with five hundred horsemen: who having advanced about ten leagues and surprized *Sennas*, was certainly informed there of the state of *Bajazets* Army, which was now at *Tataia*, and so marching forward; which *Tamerlane* being informed of, cammanded him not to retire from that place till he saw the arrival of the enemy, and thereof to give him ad-

Bajazet's approach.

Sennas surprized by Tamerlane.

His Policy.

vertisement every hour, resolving himself to pass on no further, being encamped in a fair large plain, which was very advantageous for him, his Army being bigger then *Bajazet's*, which made him make choice of those large plains. His Army also being compounded of sundry Nations, he considered that he was not to fight against the *Chinois*, a soft effeminate people, as of late; but against the *Turks*, a most warlike Nation and well acquainted with all manner of fights and warlike stratagems, and therefore he judged it necessary to proceed warily against them. Upon this consideration he presently sent for *Axalla*, with him to view the said place, and to have his opinion whether it would be advantageous for him to stay there or no? *Axalla* not misliking his choice of the place, yet withal advised him to keep *Sennas* as long as possibly he could: and accordingly he sent word to them at *Sennas*, that when they could keep the place no longer, they should set fire on it, and so retreat, and this he did, that the enemy should have no desire to encamp there, but to march forward to those plains where *Tamerlane* desired to fight, the rather because he was stronger in horse then *Bajazet*.

An Ambush.

Two thousand
Turks over-
thrown.The Bassa of
Natolia taken.

Accordingly the Prince of *Ciarchan* sent out a hundred horse toward the *Turks*; then divided he the rest of his forces into two parts, commanding the former, that as soon as they perceived the enemy to pursue the hundred horse, whom he had commanded to fly disorderly before them, that they should receive them into their squadrons, and so retire altogether: He in the mean time with the other part stood close in a valley near unto a wood-side, wholly unseen; where having suffered two thousand of the enemies horse (the vant-curriers of the *Turks* army) to pass by him, he following them in the tail, charged them home, the other also which before retired, now turned again upon them; so that the *Turks* seeing themselves thus beset and hardly laid to both before and behind, as men discouraged, fled: but in their flight were most of them slain, the rest of them were taken prisoners. This was the first encounter between the *Turks* and the *Parthians*. All the prisoners taken were by the Prince sent as a Present to *Tamerlane*, and amongst the rest, the Bassa of *Natolia*, who led those Troops; of whom *Tamerlane* earnestly demanded what caused his Master *Bajazet* so little to esteem him, as to shew so great a contempt of his Army: Which (saith he) he shall find strong enough to abate his pride? To this

this the Bassa answered: That his Lord was the Sun upon earth, which could not endure any corival: And that he rather was astonished to see how he, from so far a Country, had underraken so dangerous a journey to hinder the fortune of his Lord, in whose favour the heavens (as he said) did bend themselves to further his greatness, and unto whom all the world subjected itself; and that he committed great folly in going about to resist the same.

His speech to
Tamerlane.

Unto this proud speech *Tamerlane* replied, *That he was sent from heaven to punish his insolency, and to teach him that the proud are hated of God, whose Promise is to pull down the mighty, and to advance the lowly.* As for thy self (said he) thou hast already felt (though I pity thy mishap) what the valour of my *Parthian* horse is against thy *Turkish*: and I have already caused thy Master to raise his siege before *Constantinople*, and to look to his affairs here in *Asia*.

Tamerlanes
reply.

He also asked him whether his Master did come resolved to give him battel? Assure your self (said he) that there is nothing that he more desireth, and would to God that I might acknowledge your greatness in giving me leave to assist my Lord in that Battel? Good leave have thou (said *Tamerlane*) go thy waies, and tell thy Lord that thou hast seen me, and that in the battel he shall find me on horseback, there where he shall see a green Ensign displayed. The Bassa thanked him, and swore that next unto his Lord, he vowed unto him his service. And so returning,

His release.

he related unto *Bajazet* how he had seen *Tamerlane*, and reported to him truly all that he had willed him to say, not forgetting above all, to praise his courtesie and bounty: who besides that he had frankly set him at liberty, had also given him a very fair horse, well furnished, although he well knew that he was to serve against himself: To this *Bajazet* answered no more, but that he would shortly make trial of him, and that he doubted not but before he had done with him, he should make him acknowledge his folly.

He commends
Tamerlane.

The next day the two Armies drew near together, and encamped within a league the one of the other; where all the night long you might have heard a noise of horses which filled the heavens with their neighings, and the air with sounds; and every man thought the night long that they might come to the trial of their valours, and the gaining of their desires. The *Scythians* (a people no less greedy, then needy) talked of nothing but the

Preparations
for the battel.

Tamerlanes
prudent pra-
ctise.

His prudent
speech.

spoil ; the proud *Parthians* of attaining honour ; the poor Christians of their deliverance from an insulting adversary ; all which was to be gained by the next daies Victory. Every man, during the night-time, speaking according to his humour. All which *Tamerlane* (walking privately up and down in the Camp) heard, and much rejoiced to see the hope which his souldiers had already conceived of the Victory : and so after the second watch, returning into his Pavilion, and there casting himself upon a Carpet, he purposed to sleep a while ; but his cares not suffering him so to do, he then (as his manner was) called for a Book, wherein was contained the Lives of his Fathers and Ancestors, and of other valiant Worthies, which he used ordinarily to read in, as then also he did : not vainly to deceive the time, but to make use of it, by imitating that which by them was worthily done, and declining such dangers as they by their rashness, or oversight fell into. After which, having slumbled a little, he commanded *Axalla* to be sent for to him, who presently came, accompanied with divers other great Lords and Captains of the Army, with whom after he had consulted a while about the order of the battel, himself presently mounted on horseback, and sent each of them to their charge to see their orders put in execution : At which very instant he received intelligence that the enemy was marching forwards, and come to chuse his ground for the battel, whose order of marching *Tamerlane* was very desirous to see, that so he might marshal his own Army accordingly. For (said he) *I do not so much trust to the Lions skin wherein I wrap mine arms, but that withal I will make use of the Foxes, therein to wrap mine head, which my grandfather neglected to his Overthrow in a Battel against the Persians : For being in a place of advantage, he went out of it to seek his enemy that was lodged strongly, contrary to the advise of all his Captains, which proved his ruine.*

Then did he cause three thousand horsemen to advance forward, with charge to begin the skirmish, himself following after to lodge every part of his forces in such places as he had foreseen to be fittest for his advantage : And seeing the *Turkish* Janizaries marching in a square battel in the midst of the Army, and upon the two Fronts, two great squadrons of horsemen, which seemed to be about thirty thousand, and another which advanced before, and covered the Battalion of the Janizaries, he thought
this

this their order to be very good, and hard to be broken, and therefore turning himself to *Axalla*, he said, *I had thought this day to have fought on foot, but I see that it behoves me now to fight on horse-back, to encourage my souldiers to open that great Battalio* of the enemies. And my will is that my men come forwards to me so soon as may be; for I will advance forward with a hundred thousand footmen, fifty thousand upon each of my two wings, and in the midst of them, forty thousand of my best horsemen: and my pleasure is, that, after I have tried the force of these men, they come back unto my *Avantguard*, of whom I will dispose, and fifty thousand horsemen more in three bodies, whom thou shalt command, which I will assist with eighty thousand horse, wherein shall be mine own person, having an hundred thousand footmen behind me, who shall march in two Squadrons: and for my *Arereward* I appoint forty thousand horse, and fifty thousand footmen, who shall not march but to my aid: And I will make choice of ten thousand of my best horse, whom I will send into every place where I shall think needful within my Army, for to impart my commands.

His direction
for the battel.

Over the first forty thousand horse, the Prince of *Ciarchan* commanded, over the formost footmen was the Lord *Synopes*, a *Genovois*, kinsman to *Axalla* and his Lieutenant over the footmen, a Captain of great estimation: The Prince *Axalla's* charge consisted of five squadrons of horsemen: *Bajazet's* Army also being fair and great, came bravely still on forwards towards their enemies, who stirred not a whit from the place which they had chosen for the battel, except certain light-horsemen, *Scythians*, *Parthians*, and *Muscovites*, who being sent out as loose men, hotly skirmished between the two Armies. *Tamerlane* was informed by a Spie, that *Bajazet* was on foot in the midst of thirty thousand Janizaries, his principal men of War, and greatest strength, amongst whom he meant that day to fight, and in whom he had reposed his greatest hope. His battel of horse was very fair, amounting to the number of one hundred and forty thousand, all old souldiers: the Sultan of *Egypt* also had sent to his aid thirty thousand Mamelukes, all excellent good horsemen, with thirty thousand footmen; so that his Army marching all in a front, in the form of a half Moon, seemed almost as great as *Tamerlane's*: These *Turks*, with infinite number of horrible cries, still advanced forwards, *Tamerlane's* souldiers all the while standing still with great silence. Never

The Battel begins.

Bajazets great Army.

was there a more furious charge then the *Turks* gave upon the Prince of *Ciarchan*, who was commanded not to fight till the enemy came unto him: neither could there have been chosen a fairer Plain, and where the skilful choice of the place, gave less advantage either to the one or to other, only *Tamerlane* had a River on the left side of his Army, serving him to some small advantage. Now this young Prince of *Ciarchan*, with his forty thousand horse, was in the first encounter almost wholly overthrown; yet having fought right valiantly, and entred even into the midst of the Janizaries (where the person of *Bajazet* was) putting them into disorder, he was himself there slain. About which time *Axalla* set upon them with his squadrons, but not with the like danger: for having overthrown one of the enemies wings, and cut it all to pieces, and his footmen coming to joyn with him, as was appointed, he faced the Battalion of the Janizaries, who right valiantly behaved themselves for the safety of their Prince. This furious fight continued an hour, and yet you could not have seen any scattered, but the one still resolutely fighting against the other. You might there have seen the horsemen like mountains rushing together, and infinite numbers of men dying, crying, lamenting, and threatening all at the same instant.

Tamerlane had patience all this while to see the event of this so mortal a fight: but perceiving his men at last to begin to give ground, he sent ten thousand of his horse to joyn with the ten thousand appointed for the Rereward, commanding them to assist him when they saw that he had need, and so himself gave a furious Charge, and made them to give him room, causing the footmen also to charge, over whom the Prince of *Thanaïs* commanded, who gave a gallant charge upon the Battalion of Janizaries, wherein was yet the person of *Bajazet*, who before had sustained a great burden. Now *Bajazet* had in his Army a great number of Mercenary *Tartars*, called *Destenses*, with many thousands of other souldiers taken up in the Countries of the poor exiled *Mahometan* Princes, in whose just quarrel, and the *Greek* Emperors, *Tamerlane* had chiefly undertaken that war. These *Tartarians* and other souldiers, seeing, some their friends, and other some their natural and loving Princes in *Tamerlanes* Army, stricken with the terrour of disloyalty, and abhorring the cruelty of the proud Tyrant, in the heat of the battel, revolted from *Bajazet* to their own Princes, which much weak-

The Prince of
Ciarchan slain

A furious bat-
tel.

Tamerlane
himself char-
geth.

Many revolt
to Tamerlane.

weakened *Bajazets* forces : who nevertheless with his own men of War, especially the Janizaries, and the help of the Christian soldiers brought to his aid from *Servia*, and other places of *Europe*, with great courage maintained the fight : But the multitude rather than true valour prevailed ; for as much as might be done by valiant and courageous men, was by the Janizaries, the Mamelukes, and the rest performed, both for the preservation of their Prince, and for gaining the victory : But in the end the horsemen with whom *Tamerlane* himself was, giving a fresh charge, and his Avantguard being rallied and joyning with him, he with much ado obtained the Victory.

The Turks
overthrown.

Bajazet himself being wounded, when he saw all desperate, mounted on Horseback, thinking to have escaped : but falling into *Axalla's* hands, he yielded himself to him, supposing him to have been *Tamerlane*, neither did *Axalla* for a while know him, but took him for some great Commander in the *Turks* Army. *Musa*, fir-named *Zelabi*, or the Noble, one of *Bajazets* sons, with divers others of his great Captains were there taken also; and amongst the rest, *Georg*, Despot of *Servia*, who, notwithstanding his misfortune had that day by his valour gained the reputation of a great and valiant Captain, inasmuch as *Tamerlane* in the very heat of the battel marvelled to see him and his *Servians*, and the other Christians that he had brought to the aid of *Bajazet*, to fight so valiantly ; whereupon turning to some of his Captains that were near him, he said, *See how valiantly these Religious fight*, supposing them by their strange attire to have been some of the *Turks* superstitious Votaries. But the Despot being now taken, and afterwards brought to *Tamerlane*, he was by him courteously entertained ; yet withal reproved, for that he had assisted *Bajazet* against him, who was come in favour to the Christian Emperor, and the other poor oppressed Princes, such as the Despot himself was : who thereupon boldly answered, *That indeed it was not according to his profession, but according to the prosperity of Bajazet, unto whom it seemed that all the world should bend, and that he did it for his own safety* : Whereupon *Tamerlane* excused him, and without any more ado, gave him liberty at his own pleasure to depart.

Bajazet wounded.

Bajazet taken.

The valour of
the Christians.

The Despot of
Servia's speech

Tamerlane re-
leaseth him.

Bajazet himself being afterwards brought to *Tamerlane* as a prisoner, was by him courteously entertained, who never shewed any token of submission at all, but according to his proud nature, with-

out

Bajazets proud
behaviour.

out respect of his present state, answered him presumptuously to whatever he demanded of him: Wherevwith *Tamerlane* being somewhat moved, told him that it vvas in his povver to take his life from him; vvherto he answered no more, but *Do it, for that loss will be my greatest happinefs*: Then *Tamerlane* demanded of him, vvhath made him so proud as to enterprize to bring so noble a Prince as the *Greek* Emperor into his subjection? He answered, *Even the same cause which moved thee to invade me, namely the desire of glory and sovereignty*. But vvhwherefore then (said *Tamerlane*) dost thou use such cruelty tovwards them vvhom thou overcomest, without respect of Age or Sex? *That did I* (said he) *to strike the greater terror into mine enemies*.

Leoncla. in
edir. Annal.
Turk.
Note.

Then did *Tamerlane* ask him if he had ever given thanks to God for making him so great an Emperor? *No* (said he) *I never so much as thought upon any such thing*. Then said *Tamerlane*, Is it so vvonder that so ungrateful a man should be made a spectacle of misery. For you (saith he) being blind of an eye, and I lame of a leg, vvas there any vvorth in us, that God should set us over tvo such great Empires, to command so many men far more vvorthy then ourselves? But, said *Tamerlane*, vvhat vvouldst thou have done vvith me if it had been my lot to have fallen into thy hands, as thou art novv in mine? *I would* (said *Bajazet*) *have enclosed thee in a Cage of Iron, and so have carried thee up and down in Triumph through my Kingdom*. Even so (said *Tamerlane*) shalt thou be served: And so causing him to be taken out of his presence, turning to his followers, he said, Behold a proud and cruel man, vvho deserves to be chastised accordingly, and to be made an example to all the proud and cruel of the vvorld, of the just vvrrath of God against them. I acknowledge that God this day hath delivered into my hands a great enemy, to vvhom therefore vve must return thanks, vvwhich he also caused publickly to be performed the same day; for the battel vvvas ended about four a clock, and there vvvere divers hours yet of day-light. The next day he caused the dead to be buried, vvhere amongst the rest vvvas found the body of the Prince of *Ciarchan* dead in the midst of the Janizaries, vvhere he lay enclosed vvith their dead bodies, shewing that he died not unrevenge, vvwhose untimely death *Tamerlane* much lamented, causing his dead body to be Embalmed, & vvith tvo thousand horse, and divers *Turkish* prisoners chained together, to be conveyed to

Samercand

Tamerlanes
Piety.

Samerca untill his coming thither. All other dead bodies were, with all honour that might be, buried at *Seimas*. The dead buried.

This great bloody battel was fought in the year of our Lord, 1397. not far from mount *Stella* (where formerly the great King *Mithridates* was by *Pompey* the Great, in a great battel overthrown.) It continued from seven a clock in the morning till four in the afternoon; victory as it were all the while hovering with doubtful wings over both Armies, as uncertain where to light, until at length the fortune of *Tamerlane* prevailed: whose wisdom, next unto God, gave him that daies victory; for that the politick tiring of the strong Forces of *Bajazet*, was the safeguard of his own: whereas if he had gone unto the battel in one front, assuredly the multitude finding such strong opposition, had put it self into confusion, but this successive manner of aiding his men, made them all unto him profitable. The number of the slain is variously reported. The *Turks* themselves say, that *Bajazet* lost there his noble Son *Mustapha*, with two hundred thousand of his men, and *Tamerlane* not many fewer: Others say, that the *Turks* lost about sixty thousand, and *Tamerlane* not past twenty thousand. But likely it is, that the carnage was very great in so long a fight between two such Armies as probably never before met in a field together.

Tamerlanes Policy.

The number of the slain.

By this daies event is plainly seen the uncertainty of worldly things, and what small assurance even the greatest have in them. Behold, *Bajazet* the terrour of the world, and (as he thought) superior to fortune, in an instant by the event of one battel thrown into the bottom of misery and despair, and that at such a time as he thought least of it, even in the midst of his greatest strength. It was three daies before he could be pacified, but as a desperate man still sought after death, and called for it. Neither did *Tamerlane* after he had once spoken with him, at all afterwards use him courteously, but as of a proud and insolent man, made small account of him. And to manifest that he knew how to curb the haughty, he made him to be shackled in fetters and chains of Gold, and so to be shut up in an Iron Cage, made like a grate, that he might be seen on every side, and so carried him up and down as he passed thorow *Asia*, to be made a scorn and derision to his own people, over whom he had before Tyrannized. And to his further disgrace, upon festival daies he used him for a footstool

The uncertainty of worldly greatness.

Bajazet kept in a Cage.

to tread upon when he mounted on horseback, and at other times scornfully fed him like a dog with fragments that fell from his Table. A rare example of the uncertainty of worldly honours and greatness, that he, unto whose ambitious mind *Asia* and *Europe*, two great parts of the World, were too little, should now be carried up and down, cooped up in a little Iron Cage, like a dangerous wild beast: How might he have taken up that speech of *Hecuba* in *Seneca*? *Quicumque Regno fudit, & magna potens dominatur in aula, me videat.* — *Non unquam tulit Documenta Fors majora quam fragili loco starent superbi.*

Pride goeth
before destru-
ction.

Tamerlane used this severity, not so much out of hatred to the man, as to manifest the just judgment of God against the arrogant folly of the proud. And when on a time he was requested by one of his Nobles to remit some part of this rigour to so great a man, he answered, *I do not use this rigour against him as a King, but rather to punish him as a proud ambitious Tyrant, polluted with the blood of his own brother and many other innocents.*

Tamerlane
prosecutes his
victory.

This so great an overthrow brought such a fear upon all the Countries possessed by *Bajazet* in *Asia*, that *Axalla* being sent before *Tamerlane* with forty thousand horse, and a hundred thousand foot without carriages, to prosecute the victory, came without resistance to *Prusa*, whither all the remainder of *Bajazet's* Army was retired with *Bassa Mustapha*: all places as he marched along still yielding to him: Yea, the great *Bassa*, with the rest, hearing of his coming, and not thinking themselves in safety in *Asia*, fled over the streit of *Hellepont* to *Callipolis*, and so to *Hadrianople*.

The Turks flye.

Prusa taken.

Axalla coming to *Prusa*, had the City without resistance yielded to him, which by his Army was plundered, and there, with other of *Bajazet's* wives and concubines, he took prisoner the fair *Despina*, *Bajazet's* best beloved Wife, to the doubling of his grief.

The Greek
Emperor sends
Ambassadors.

Emmanuel Paleologus now hearing of *Tamerlane's* coming to *Prusa*, sent honourable Ambassadors thither before to *Axalla*, by whom they were entertained till the coming of *Tamerlane*, who received them with all the honour that might be, shewing them all his magnificence, and the order of his Camp, to their great admiration: For it resembled a most populous and well governed City by reason of the order that was therein, which brought it plenty of victuals, and of all manner of Merchandise as well for delight as necessity.

sity. By these Ambassadors the *Greek* Emperour yielded his Empire, together with his person unto *Tamerlane* as his most faithful subject and vassal: Which (as he said) he was bound to do, for that he was by him delivered from the most cruel Tyrant of the world; as also for the long journey he had undertaken for his sake, and the discommodities he had endured with the hazard of his person and loss of his subjects, which could not be otherwise compensated, but with the offer of his own & his subjects lives to him, which for ever he therefore dedicated to his service, with all the fidelity & loyalty that so great a benefit might deserve: besides, that his so many virtues, & rare endowments, which made him famous thorow the world, did oblige him the more hereunto, and that therefore he would attend him in his chief City, to deliver it into his hands as his own, together with all the Empire of *Greece*.

The Greek Empire yielded to Tamerlane.

Now these Ambassadors expected no less than to fall into the bondage of *Tamerlane*, judging that which they offered to be so great and delicate a morsel, as that it would not be refused, especially of such a victorious Prince as was *Tamerlane*; and that the acceptance thereof in kindness and friendship was the best bargain they could make therein. But they received an answer from this worthy Prince far beyond their expectation: For he with a mild countenance beholding them, answered thus, That he was not come from so far a Country, nor undertook such paines for the enlargement of his dominions, big enough already (too base a thing for him to put himself into so great danger, and hazard for) but rather to win honour, and to make his name famous to future posterities: And that he would make it appear to the World that he came to assist their Master as his Friend and Ally at his request: and that his upright intentions therein were the greatest cause that God from above had favoured him, and made him instrumental to bruise the head of the greatest and fiercest enemy of mankind that was under heaven; and therefore to get him an immortal name, his purpose was to make free so great and flourishing a City as was *Constantinople*, governed by so noble and ancient an house as the Emperours. That he had alwaies joyned faith to his courage, which should never suffer him to make so great a breach into his reputation, as that it should be reported of him, that in the colour of a Friend he should come to invade the Dominions of his Ally. That he desired no more, but that the service he had

Its refused by him.

Tamerlane fidelity.

The Life of Tamerlane the Great.

done for the *Greek* Emperor might remain for ever engraven in the memory of his posterity, to the end they might for ever wish well to him and his successors, by the remembring the good he had done for them: That he wished that long might the noble Emperor live, happily to govern his estate, and that before his return, he would so well consider for the establishing of the same, as that he should not lightly fall into the same jeopardy.

The Ambassadors dismissed.

The Greek Emperor comes to him.

Easie it is to judg what joy the Ambassadors did conceive upon hearing this so gracious an answer from the mouth of *Tamerlane*, who, rather than he would break his Faith, refused an Empire offered him, together with one of the stateliest, and magnificentest Cities in the world. After the testification of their joy and thankfulness, these Ambassadors were by the command of *Tamerlane* royally feasted by *Axalla*, having all the honour done to them that might be. And one of them being sent back to carry this unexpected news to the Emperor, filled both him and all the City of *Constantinople* with exceeding joy and gladness, which both he, and all his subjects testified by making of Bonfires, and other signs of joy and pleasure. And the Emperor, the more to shew his gratitude, by the advice of his Counsellours, passed over the streit into *Asia*, to see *Tamerlane* in *Prusa*, and in person himself to give him thanks; who hearing of his coming, and being glad thereof, presently sent Prince *Axalla* to meet him, and to certifie him of the joy he conceived to have the good hap to see him, as also to conduct him to *Prusa*, where those two great Princes with the greatest magnificence that might be, met, and so spent one whole day in conversing together: and the *Greek* Emperor the next day taking his leave, was by *Tamerlane* with much honour conducted out of the City.

Tamerlane goes to Constantinople.

Now had *Tamerlane* himself conceived a great desire to see the famous City of *Constantinople*, from which he was not now far, yet would he not go thither as a Conquerour, but as a private person: which by the means of *Axalla* was accomplished, and he thereinto by the *Greek* Emperor privately received, and with all familiarity possible entertained: The Emperor shewing unto him all the rare and excellent things that were contained therein; and the other *Greek* Princes devising all the means they could to do him pleasure, and them that were with him, who were all in a manner cloathed after the *Greek* fashion. The *Greek* Emperor

was

was curious to shew him all the beautiful Gardens along the Sea-coast, and so privately conducting him about, spent five or six daies with all the mirth that might be; *Tamerlane* by the way, often saying, that he had never seen a fairer City; and that of all others, considering the situation of it, it was right worthy to command all the world. He wondred at the costly buildings of the Temples, the fair engraven pillars, the high Pyramides, and the excellent gardens; afterwards saying often, that it nothing repented him to have undertaken so long and dangerous a journey; if it had been only to preserve so notable a City from fire and sword. In the *Greek* Emperour he greatly commended his mild nature and courtesie, who knowing that above all things he took pleasure in fair serviceable horses, gave unto him thirty of the fairest, strongest, and readiest that were possibly to be gotten, all most richly furnished: He sent likewise great presents to all the Princes, and great Commanders of the Army, and bountifully caused to be delivered to them all things which he thought necessary for the Army: So after these great kindneses, and a strict bond of friendship made, and by solemn Oath confirmed by these two great Princes, *Tamerlane* with great contentment took leave of the Emperour, and returned to his Army at *Prusa*, wherewith now at pleasure he spoiled and wasted all the dominions of *Bajazet* in *Asia*, no man daring to make head against him.

He highly commended it.

The winter now drawing on, *Tamerlane* dispersed his Army into divers Provinces of the lesser *Asia*, expecting daily when some of *Bajazet's* sons, or great friends should make suite to him for his deliverance; but none came, most fearing the fierce nature of *Bajazet*, who if he had been delivered, was like enough to have taken severe revenge upon all that forsook him in the battel, and therefore they never interceded for him. Whereupon *Tamerlane* one day passing by him, said, *I marvel that none of thy sons nor friends either come to see thee, or to intreat for thee; it must needs be that thou hast evil deserved of them, as thou hast of others. But what thinkest thou, if I should set thee at liberty, would they receive thee againe as their Lord and Sovereign, or not?* To whom *Bajazet* stoutly answered, *Were I at liberty thou shouldst quickly see that I neither want courage nor means to revenge all my wrongs, and to make the disobedient to know their duties*

He sends his Army to their winter-quarters.

Bajazet's Pride

better. This proud answer made *Tamerlane* keep a stricter hand over him.

Tamerlanes
Justice.

He marches
towards Egypt.

His battel with
the Sultan.

The Sulran
beaten, flyeth.

In this great war the Sultan of *Egypt* (as we said before) had aided *Bajazet*, which *Tamerlane* took in so evil part that he resolved revenge: For as to his Friends he was most kind and courteous, so to his Enemies most terrible and dreadful. Yet before his departure he restored to the poor *Mahometan* Princes that had fled to him for refuge, all their ancient Inheritances, with something more out of bounty: as also he did divers Cities and Countreies of *Natcha* to the *Greek* Emperour for the yearly tribute of four hundred thousand Ducats of Gold, and eight hundred thousand Franks of Silver. And thus having enriched his Army with the spoiles of the *Ottoman* Empire, he turned his Forces against the *Egyptian* Sultan, and so passing thorow *Carmania*, he entered into *Syria*, then part of the Sultans Kingdom; where near unto *Aleppo* (before yielded to him) there was fought betwixt them a great and mortal battel, the Sultan having in his Army a hundred thousand foot, and seventy four thousand horse; whereof there were thirty thousand *Mameluks*, accounted the best horsemen in the world. In which battel *Axalla*, with the Avantguard of *Tamerlane's* Army, was hardly distressed; and *Axalla* himself taken, but presently rescued by *Tamerlane*, who had he not by his coming on with fresh Forces speedily restored the battel, that day was like enough to have put a period to his fortunes: But victory after a long and cruel fight (wherein were eighty thousand of both sides slain) inclining to *Tamerlane*, the Sultan fled, *Tamerlane* pursuing him for the space of three leagues. After this victory *Tamerlane* dividing his Army, sent *Axalla* with forty thousand horse, and fifty thousand foot to pursue the Sultan along the Sea-coast of *Arabia*: The Sultan made divers Alts with four thousand horse to have stopped *Axalla*, who having the smallest Forces, followed him the nearest, whilst *Tamerlane* with sixty thousand horse, and two hundred thousand foot marched along those Coasts, having all the Cities as he went surrendered to him: only the strong City of *Damasco* refused to receive him, whereinto the Sultan had put the Prince *Zahander* with a strong Garrison, who did what might be done to defend the same, but all in vain: For *Tamerlane* having by battery overthrown a great

part

part of the Wall, took the City by storm, only the Cattle yet remained which was accounted impregnable: but at the taking of the City, such a multitude pressed into it, as that it was not possible for them long to subsist; therefore within a short time being pinched with hunger, and many already dead, the rest, upon promise of their lives, offered to yield: But *Tamerlane* would not receive them to mercy, to make them sensible what it was to hold out against him: So that most of them dying of famine, the rest yielded at pleasure, and were most of them put to the sword for their obstinacy; which severity of his caused all the Cities within the space of thirty leagues to bring their Keyes to him in token of their submission, whom he no way molested, otherwise than in contributing to the charge of his Army.

From thence he turned directly towards *Jerusalem*, at which time they of the City had turned out the Sultans Garrison, as had almost all they of *Judea*, submitting themselves unto *Tamerlane*: at *Chorazin* was a Garrison of six thousand, who at first pretended to defend the place: but when they perceived that *Tamerlane* was resolved to have it, they submitted, and found mercy. There *Tamerlane* left a Garrison of his own to repress the Mameluks, who with frequent incursions troubled his Army. Himself with some of his horsemen rode to *Jerusalem* to visit the Sepulchre so much revered of all Nations: By the Inhabitants he was joyfully received, and having sought out all the antiquities of that ancient City, he would be conducted to all the places where Christ had preached, and coming to the Sepulchre, he gave there many rich gifts, to the great content of all, only the *Jews* much blamed him for so doing, but he regarded them not, calling them the accursed of God: There had he news that the Sultan, having gathered together all his Forces, was fortifying his Cities in *Egypt*, especially *Alexandria*, and the *Grand Cair*; whereupon *Tamerlane* commanded his Army to march towards *Egypt* to *Damietta*, which strong City he thought not good to leave behind him, though by some he was perswaded so to do, for that it was thought impregnable, both by reason of the strong Castle, and great Garrison placed therein by the Sultan: But he whose fortune nothing could hinder, would needs go thither: And having commanded *Axalla* to attempt it, followed himself after with the rest of his Army.

Damasco taken by storm.

Tamerlane goes to *Jerusalem*.

His Piety.

He marcheth into *Egypt*.

Now

Damietta
taken.

Tamerlane
marcheth to
Caire.

Caire besieged.

Now *Axalla* having summoned the City, declared to the inhabitants (who were most of them Christians) the mildness, and courtesie of *Tamerlane*, as also who himself, and of what Religion he was; causing many of his *Greek* Captains to speak to them, and to tell them, what misery they endured under the *Moors* and *Mameluks*, which so far prevailed with them that they resolved to adventure their lives to put the *Mameluks* out of the City; and the night after taking Armes, made themselves Masters of one quarter of the City, opening one of the gates to *Axalla*, whereby he entring, put all the *Mameluks* to the sword, or took them prisoners, and so became Master of that strong City: Whereof *Tamerlane* hearing, hoped by so prosperous a beginning to find an happy end of his wars in *Egypt*. For he knew that the haven of *Damietta* might furnish him with victuals out of all parts of *Greece*, as the Emperor *Emmanuel* had promised him, and wherein he nothing failed him. Then did *Tamerlane* enter the City, leaving therein a Garrison of two thousand of the Emperour of *Greece* his souldiers, with a Governour, of whom he took an oath for their obedience. And having staid a while at *Damietta*, he caused his Avantguard to march towards *Alexandria*, and having passed over the River, he suddenly turned directly towards *Grand Caire*, to the great astonishment of the Sultan, who provided for the defence of *Alexandria* as neere to the Enemy: But understanding this newes, used such diligence that he entred into *Caire*, with forty thousand horse, and sixty thousand foot, even as *Tamerlanes* Army approached to it. By this unexpected coming of the Sultan, the great City that before was ready to have revolted, was again confirmed in his obedience, to the great prejudice of *Tamerlanes* affairs: For to remain long before it was impossible, thorow want of victuals for so great an Army in an Enemies Country. Yet this discouraged not *Tamerlane* from approaching to it, and with all his Army to encamp neer unto the same, having caused a great trench to be made for the security of his horsemen, and therein to lodge his Army more safely: during which time he caused divers attempts to be made, as well to try the enemies confidence, as to see how the people of the City, especially the slaves (which in that populous City are in great numbers) were affected towards him, who indeed were glad to see the state of his Army, and the proud *Mameluks* still put to the worst, but far-

farther stirred not. During this siege, he thought good one day to draw forth his Army before the City, to try whether the enemy had any mind to come to a battel; as also to view his own forces, and so indeed to seek occasion to fight, hoping that if the Sultan should come forth with his Army, some revolt might happen at the same time in the City, as well by the slaves, unto whom by secret Spies, he had promised liberty, as by the Citizens themselves, who were much discontented with the insolency of the Mamelukes, and by whom *Tamerlane* by the same Spies had made it known that he came not to hurt them, but to deliver them from the tyranny of his, and their Enemies: But standing thus in battel array, none stirred out of the City, neither was there any tumult raised within, according as he expected: For the Sultan being plentifully provided with all things in that rich City, resolved to weary out *Tamerlane* by lying still, and not to put all to the hazard of a Battel. *Tamerlane* perceiving his Design, yet resolved not to depart till he was victorious; whereupon he thought fit also to attempt him in his greatest strength, and in the heart of his greatest City, though it could not be done without great hazard, such confidence had he in the Valour, and Multitude of his Army. Now his purpose was first to take one of the Cities (for *Caire* is divided into three) and therein encamping himself, by little and little to advance forwards as he could find opportunity. Upon this resolution he commanded a strong assault to be given, and having conducted his Footmen to the place chosen by him for the Onset (for the City was not Walled, but only fortified with Ditches and Trenches) he commanded the Prince of *Thanaïs* with fifty thousand men to begin the Assault even in the face of the Enemy, which he most valiantly performed, which occasioned a great and terrible fight. *Axalla* in the mean time deeming (as the truth was) that the Sultan had drawn the greatest part of his Forces to that place, fetched a Compass about, and in another part of the City, with small resistance passed the Trenches, where he presently left thirty thousand men to fill up the Ditches, thereby to make way for the Horsemens entrance, himself with the rest, advancing forwards against twenty thousand sent by the Sultan to oppose his farther passage, the Prince of *Thanaïs* being at the same time almost beaten back by the Mamelukes: But the Ditches being

Tamerlanes Policy.

Caire stormed?

Axalla enters.

Caire taken.

presently levelled, ten thousand horsemen entred, who charged upon the backs of the Mamelukes, where the Sultan himself was; they were likewise seconded by ten thousand more sent in by *Tamerlane*, himself following after with all his power: Hereupon the Sultan retreated into a second strength which he had made in the next City.

The Sultan
flyeth,Tamerlane
pursueth.A brave re-
treat of the
Mamelukes,

Air

Fidelity re-
warded.

This fight continued full seven hours, wherein were slain of the Sultans men, above sixteen thousand, and of *Tamerlane's* between seven and eight thousand. *Tamerlane* being well contented that he had dislodged his enemy, and gained one of the Cities, caused a retreat to be founded, hoping the next day to win all the rest, as indeed he did. For the next morning the Prince of *Thanais* storming the Trenches in one part, as *Axalla* did in another, the Sultan after a great fight finding himself hardly pressed by the obstinate enemy, and unable longer to hold out, retreated, abandoning the City, and encamping himself along the River *Nilus*, resolving to retire to the City of *Alexandria* his second strength, and only refuge, which *Tamerlane* suspecting, followed after him with his Horsemen, (who only were in order) and some few foot hardly drawn from the City, which their fellows were in plundering, *Tamerlane* promising them both to regard, and reward their good service. Against these the Sultan upon a narrow cawse-way, had opposed twelve or fifteen thousand men to favour his passage, who being of his best Souldiers, maintained their ground stoutly, the place being much for their advantage; yet at length their enemies still encreasing, and pressing hard upon them, they were forced to cast themselves into the great River, and made a most honourable retreat, every man having his weapon in one hand, and swimming with the other hand to the farther bank. The Sultan flying with about eighteen thousand Horse (the rest being either drowned, or dispersed) is said to have comforted his flying men, by telling them, they were not men, but gods that had vanquished them.

Divers of the Mamelukes that were taken Prisoners, being brought before *Tamerlane* were by him courteously used, and asked if they would be content to serve him, seeing their Master was fled and gone? This they all utterly refused, whom notwithstanding for their fidelity, *Tamerlane* set at liberty to go again to their Master, being no less desirous to be admired by his

his enemies for his goodnesse and bounty, then to be feared for his force and valour.

The wonderful wealth of this so great, and famous a City, became a prey to his Souldiers, who for the space of twenty four hours had the spoil thereof: At the end of which time every man was straitly charged by open Proclamation to retire to his Quarters. *Tamerlane* would not suffer any of the Citizens to be taken Prisoners, and such as were, he released, and so leaving ten thousand good Souldiers, with many others that followed his Camp, for the Guard of the City, and taking with him all such persons, as he thought might hurt him, he caused his Army to pass over the River, and to follow the Sultan to *Alexandria*, that so his Victory might be compleated.

Caire plundered.

Tamerlane goes to *Alexandria*.

Axalla hastened before with the Avantguard to hinder the Sultan from gathering up his forces together: The rest of the Army was conducted by the Prince of *Thanais*. *Tamerlane* himself with an infinite number of Boats, and many Souldiers to attend him, went by water, greatly delighting to behold that fair River of *Nilus*, sometimes running with a swift course; other sometimes very calm, and scarce moved. The Citizens of *Alexandria* hearing of his coming, and fearing the issue, besought the Sultan to compassionate their condition, and to withdraw himself into *Lybia*; whither *Tamerlane* could not follow him by reason of the barrenness of the Country: Resolving for their parts to submit to fortune, and to do as the time required; yet promising in heart to remain his, and to make the same to appear to him, so soon as occasion should be offered. Hereupon the Sultan, seeing all things desperate, determined to retire, yet hoping that time might bring a change, for that *Tamerlane's* numerous Army could not long remain there: And so departing out of *Alexandria* with Tears standing in his eyes, he often said, that God was angry with him and his People, so that he must of necessity suffer the fatal Overthrow of his estate; yet for his own part he had done as much as in him lay, according to the Duty of his Place, and to satisfy the Expectation that the world had of him, for the upholding of the same. Notwithstanding he hoped to return again, and to deliver his People from that bondage, which for the present they were necessitated to submit to.

The Sultan flies.

Axalla pursues
him.

Many Kings
submit to Ta-
merlane.

Tamerlane
desires to re-
turn home.

He secures his
new conquests.

Tamerlane coming to *Alexandria* (before yielded to *Axalla*) staid there a great while, sending *Axalla* to pursue the Sultan, being much grieved that he could not get him into his hands, and therefore he still feared that some Innovation would be raised by him after his departure, which made him to deal the more hardly with them whom he suspected to favour him. Now the bruit of these victories, having, with *Axalla*, passed into *Lybia*, brought such a fear, not only upon the Countries adjoining to these Conquests, but also upon all *Affrica*, supposing (that *Tamerlane* followed with the rest of his Army) that twenty two of the *Moorish* Kings sent their Ambassadors to offer their subjection and obedience to him: Of the nearest of which Kings *Tamerlane* took Hostages, but for such as were more remote, he contented himself with their faith given, and with other Testimonies of their good wils. *Axalla* having long followed the Sultan, who like a man forsaken of Fortune, still fled before him, seeing all his labour lost, returned to *Alexandria*. And *Tamerlane* after his long travel and pains taken, was now more desirous then ever to return into his own Countrey: The rather being moved thereunto by the earnest request of his Wife, much longing for his return: He had news also of the sicknesse of the old Emperour of *Tartary*, his Father in Law; and besides, Age it self began to bring unto him a desire of rest. With his did the desires of the Souldiers well agree, who were now weary of running so many and divers Adventures. His only stay was, that he expected the coming of *Calibes*, an old and faithful servant of his, whom for his good desert he made choice of to govern all these his new conquests in *Egypt* and *Syria*: A great honour indeed it was, but not too great for him that had so well deserved. And indeed *Tamerlane* was alwaies so mindful of the good deserts of his faithful servants, that he needed not by others to be put in remembrance of them, were they never so far off, as now was *Calibes*, who at this time was, with a third part of the Army, making way for him along the River *Euphrates*, for the conquest of *Mesopotamia* and *Persia*, whose coming was longed for with great devotion by the whole Army, which was now very desirous to return; but this expectation of theirs was not long delayed, for *Calibes* being sent for, came speedily to *Alexandria*, where the whole Army was by *Tamerlane's* command now rendezvoused.

Upon

Upon the coming of *Calibes*, *Tamerlane* made the Prince of *Zamalzan* (a man of great reputation) Governour of that place, *Calibes* made as Lieutenant General under *Calibes*, whom *Tamerlane* (as Governour. was said before) had made his Vice-Roy over all *Egypt*, and *Syria*, together with the Countries newly conquered in *Lybia* and *Barbary*: He gave him also six thousand Horse, and ten thousand Foot to assist him therein: And so leaving *Alexandria*, he took *Calibes* along with him to the great City of *Caire*, there taking the best order he could for the securing of his new Conquests: He left with him forty thousand Horse, and fifty thousand Foot: And having sufficiently instructed him, how he would have those Kingdoms governed, dismissed him, not like a servant, but a companion, being very sorry to leave him destitute of his presence: So setting forwards with his Army, conducted by the Prince of *Thanaïs*, *Tamerlane* with a few of his Train, turned again aside to *Jerusalem*, where he daily visited the Sepulcher of Christ (whom he called the God of the Christians) viewing the ruins of *Solomons* Temple, which he much admired, and at *Jerusalem* the Seat of *Dauids* Kingdom, and of that great *Solomon*, grieving that he could not see them in their former beauty; And to shew his devotion and favour to this City, he commanded it to be free from all Garrisons and Subsidies, and so giving great gifts to the Monasteries, he departed from thence to *Damasco*; which great City, for that it was infected with the Opinions of *Jezides* (accounted an Arch-Heretic amongst the Mussulmen) as also evil-affected to his Proceedings, he caused it to be rased, and the bones of *Jezides* the False Prophet to be digged up and burnt, and his Sepulcher (which before by his Disciples was much honoured) to be filled with dung; and so marching on, and blasting the world before him, being victorious which way soever he turned, he at last passed over the River *Euphrates*, where he conquered *Mesopotamia*, with the great City of *Babylon*, and all the Kingdom of *Persia*, and so at last laden with the spoiles of the world, and eternized for ever in his fame, he returned to *Samer-cand*, the famous place of his Birth, and Glorious Seat of his Empire.

Tamerlane goes to Jerusalem.

Now had *Bajazet* (a little before one of the greatest Princes on earth, and now the Scorn of Fortune, and by-word to the world) with great impatience lyen two years in most miserable

Bajazets Character.

thralldom, for the most part shut up in an iron Cage, like a dangerous wild beast : and having no better means to end his loathed life, violently dashed out his brains against the bars of the iron Grate wherein he was enclosed, and so died about the year of our Lord 1399. His dead body at the request of his son *Mahomet*, was by *Tamerlane* sent to *Asprapolis*, from which it was conveyed to *Prusa*, and there lieth buried in a Chappel, built for the purpose without the City Eastward : where also are interred the bodies of his best beloved Wife *Despina*, and of his eldest son *Erthogrul*, and in another little Chappel hard by, lieth buried his brother *Jacup*, whom he had murdered in the beginning of his Reign. This *Bajazet* had some Vertues, which were much obscured by his cholerick and wayward nature, which made him to exceed in cruelty and pride : He was also very covetous ; which qualities made him indeed much feared, but little beloved of his souldiers and men of war, by whom therefore in his greatest need he was forsaken. He used commonly to say, That *his Treasures were his Childrens meat, and not his Souldiers Pay* ; which by way of reproach was by a common souldier cast in his Teeth, when he raged to see himself by them forsaken in that great battel against *Tamerlane*, telling him as he fled, *That he ran not away, but went to seek his Pay, wherewith to provide his Children bread.*

Tamerlanes devotion.

Tamerlane, as we said before, having conquered *Persia*, used his victory so mildly, that as long as he lived, the people of that Countrey were alwaies much affected to him ; which served him greatly, as well for the keeping of *Syria*, as the Sultan of *Egypt*s Empire : In his own Countrey he was received with all Triumphs, and expressions of joy that might be ; the chiefeest prisoners marching before him, and wheresoever he passed, the people assembled themselves by thousands, praising and singing his victories. The Emperor having spent a moneth or two in Feasts and Triumphs according to his accustomed Devotion, he vowed a Church and Hospital unto God, the most magnificent that might be devised : and to beautifie his City of *Samercand*, he searched out all sorts of Handicrafts-men, intending to make it as large again as it was, and one of the stateliest Cities in the world : he peopled it also with so many several Nations as he had brought along with him, unto whom he gave liberty to build houses, distributing money unto them to do the same, giving them also all kind

He enlargeth Samercand.

kind of privileges, and immunities for their encouragement therein: He caused also the streets to be plotted out, and in one corner of it he built his Church and Hospital. His next care was to preserve the good will and love of his famous souldiers, whose names he caused to be Registred in a general Muster-Role, which he kept by him, and daily conferred honours and rewards upon them (they not thinking of it) in recompence of their former good services: thinking that day lost wherein he did not some good. Then did he declare the death of the old Emperor to his Council, (of which he had received private intelligence) and forgot no Ceremony due unto his honour, publicly expressing the grief he had conceived for his death. Then did he with his ordinary Court, consisting of forty thousand horse, and sixty thousand foot, set forwards towards *Quinsay*, where his Emperess was. And when he came to *Cambalu*, he had intelligence of a battel fought by *Odmars* against the King of *China's* Captain General, and how he had pursued his victory, having taken three or four great and rich Cities, and that the *Chinois* did again desire peace. Hereupon he sent them these Articles: that the King of *China* should pay all the Arrears of his Tribute; That he should come in person to do his homage, acknowledging himself a Vassal of his Empire; That he should deliver up to him all his Cities saving three, such as the Emperor should nominate: That he should pay all the Charges of the War, because he had broken the Peace; which performed, things should be restored to the same state they were in before the War. And to gratifie *Odmars*, he sent to him, with all Magnificence, one of his sisters to be his Wife.

His love to his Souldiers.

He goeth towards *Quinsay*.

Odmars victory in *China*.

Tamerlane gives him his sister in marriage.

When he first entred into *Cambalu*, he was received with all the expressions of joy that might be, whereupon he restored to them their privileges which he had taken from them for their Rebellion with *Calix*. The Emperess being informed of his being there (leaving Prince *Axalla* to govern at *Quinsay*) came to him: So that he remained there near two moneths, giving order for all his affairs, the rather because it was near to Mount *Alibay*, where the *Scythian* Emperors use to be buried: And so causing the body of the old Emperor to be brought thither, himself conducted it with all pomp, honouring not only the body, but all that he had loved in the world; and though it was not the custom for Women to assist at Funerals, yet he took his Emperess along with him,

The old Emperor buried.

him, who went near unto the Corps, till they came to the place where it was interred amongst his Predecessors. After these Ceremonies finished, he returned to *Cambalu*, where he spent the Winter in Tilts, Turnaments, Hunting, & such like Recreations: The rather because this place was near to *China*, whereby he had the fitter opportunity to hear how Affairs passed there, purposing to go thither in person the next Winter, if *Odmar* that Summer did not make an end of the Wars: and if the King of *China* did not submit himself to his Obedience. The Mark he shot at now being only to keep that which by his valour he had won, desiring to spend the rest of his life in reaping the fruits of his hard travels, and former labours.

Now Prince *Axalla* governed at *Quinsay*, as well to the great contentment of the Souldiery, as of the Inhabitants, who out of their abundant love to the Emperor, requested Prince *Axalla* to write importunately to him, that his Son might be brought up amongst them, which at *Axalla*'s request he consented to, making him in the absence of his son, the Governour of *Quinsay*, from *Cambalu* even to the Sea, which Countrey contained in it about three hundred Cities, besides an infinite number of Villages: all which was formerly under the Government of the old Emperor: He delivered also into his charge the Government of his Son.

His son
brought up at
Quinsay.

The King of
China comes
to him.

Shortly after the King of *China* came to his Court, according to the Covenants offered to him, where he once again swore obedience to the Emperor, who shewed him his greatness, the more to make him stand in awe: for he knew that this Barbarian would keep no promise longer then it should stand with his own interest. This King of *China* was astonished to behold so many Souldiers, and the Countrey so well replenished with people: and above all, that they used so little curiosity and riches in their apparel, especially wondring that the Emperor himself was apparelled in mean cloth of one colour, without curiosity.

Tamerlane's
plain apparel.

Shortly after *Tamerlane* went to *Quinsay*, and by the way was met by Prince *Axalla*, and all the chief Lords and Citizens, who entertained him with all the magnificence that might be. This City of *Quinsay* was the fairest, and one of the richest in the world, and of the most wonderful scituation, being divided by many channels of water, upon which are framed wonderful and stately buildings, having also an infinite number of Bridges: It

Quinsay de-
scribed. It was
one hundred
miles in com-
passe.

abounds

abounds with all kind of Spices, and Merchandizes in great quantity. The Citizens presented the Emperor with many rare things, judged to be worth two millions in Gold, with great variety of strange and excellent things. Then did the Emperor call for his Son that was there educated, who was now seven years old. He forbade that thence forward they should suffer him to wear any thing on his head, and hung a Bow about his neck, saying, "That they which from their birth were called to Sovereignty, should be used both to Cold and Heat, and should be exercised to armes betimes, and not be brought up idly and delicately: reprehending those which brought him up, for using him so tenderly, asking them if they meant to make a Woman of his Son? They replying that he was tender. If he be not born (said he) to be strong and valiant, he will not be worthy to succeed me, for he must not be an effeminate Prince that must preserve the *Parthian* Empire. About this time his Emperess was brought to bed of another Son at *Samercand*, for joy whereof he made Feasts, with Tiltings and Pastimes fifteen dayes together. Then did he visit all the Sea-Towns near to *Quinsay*, hunting all manner of Games: yet saying often, That the recreations which he used, were only helps to ease him in the pains of his publick affairs which God had called him to. And when Prince *Axalla* told him that that City was a fit place for his abode. "O my friend (said he) it is not so. For its a Maxime, that the Lord of this great City must not come to it above once in ten years, and when he is here, he must temper his Actions, as if he were upon a Stage, with Gravity and a good Grace before the people, who are apt to receive good or evil impressions according as their Prince deporteth himself.

His directions about the breeding of his Son.

His second son born.

Recreations rightly used.

His prudence.

Having settled his affairs in that part of his Empire, he returned to *Samercand*, where three times a week he administered Justice publicly unto the meanest of his Subjects as well as to the greatest, which made him much beloved of all over whom he did command. On other daies he gave secret audience, and disposed of the affairs of his estate which were concluded daily in his presence. In his Council he used such severity that none durst deal untruly, or passionately in his presence. Yet shewed he such courteousness in his conversation, that he was both beloved and feared of his people. He never changed his servants except they

His return to Samarcand.
His justice.

His love to his
servants.

His bounty.

His frugality.

His death.

His Character

committed some great faults against him. All the servants of the late Emperour his Uncle, he never changed one of them, but increased their Pensions, making them sensible of his liberality in that change. The like bounty he used to strangers, thereby to oblige them to him. He drew great store of money yearly from the *Muscovite* by way of tribute, which yet he distributed in the same Countrey to maintain his authority there, winning those to him, who otherwise might have hurt him. He had great care of his revenues, wherein he was so expedite that in one hours space he could see his estate from three moneths to three moneths, together with his ordinary and extraordinary expences; they were presented to him so well digested.

But after all his publick affairs so well managed, and his private busineses so well ordered, sickness arrested, and death conquered this great Conqueror, leaving his Empire to *Samochia* his eldest Son now nineteen years old, who was proclaimed Emperour within two hours after his Fathers death.

Tamerlane from his childhood was well instructed in the *Arabian* learning, wherein he was very studious, insomuch as when they thought him to be in the Baths, wherein they are very curious in that Countrey, being their chiefest delight, he was retired to the contemplation and study of heavenly things. He had within his eyes such a divine beauty, and radiancy full of Majesty, that one could hardly endure the sight of them without closing of his eyes, so that some that talked with him, and beheld him, were stricken dumb for the present, which caused him with a comely modesty to abstain from looking upon them that talked with him. All the rest of his visage was courteous, and well proportioned. He wore his haire long and curled, contrary to the custome of his Countrey-men, who used to shave their heads: He went almost alwaies bare-headed, saying, that his Mother came of the Race of *Sampson*, who therefore advised him to honour long hair. His hair was of a dusky colour inclining somewhat to a Violet, the most beautiful that any eye could behold. His stature was of a middle sort, somewhat narrow in his shoulders: He had a fair and strong leg; his bodily strength and agility was such, as none did surpass, and often on Festival dayes, he made trial of them with the strongest; yet did he it with such a Grace mixt with

with Humanity, that he whom he overcame held himself therein most happy, though it was a great disgrace amongst the *Tartarians* to be thrown to the ground in wrestling.

In the time of his Wars against the *Turks*, a Souldier of his found buried in the ground a great Pot of Gold, which he brought to *Tamerlane*, who asked him if it had his Fathers stamp upon it ; But when he saw that it had the stamp of the *Romans*, he would not own, nor meddle with it.

Note.

